

Walters optimistic over hostages

DAMASCUS (R) — The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, said Friday he was optimistic about the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon although he had no new grounds for hope. "I am always an optimist by nature. I do not know whether I can substantiate my optimism with any new factors, but after all they have released three of four in the past and one has to be an optimist," he told a news conference. Walters said he would raise the hostages issue during talks with Syrian leaders but said his visit to Damascus was not specifically to discuss the matter. He would not speculate whether a Syrian military move into Beirut's southern suburbs would help or hinder efforts for their release. He also declined to say whether the United States supported Syrian intervention in the suburbs but repeated Washington's call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Walters, who has held talks in Jordan, Egypt and Israel, said he would also visit Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and other Middle East issues.

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Italian deputies urge EC peace effort

ROME (R) — The lower house of the Italian parliament called on the European Community (EC) Thursday to abandon rhetoric and launch a Middle East peace initiative. After a two-day debate, the Chamber of Deputies overwhelmingly approved a resolution stressing the "rights of all people in the region to secure and guaranteed liberty." It said the role of the EC was not only to make "wise pronouncements about projects for peace but also to assume responsibility and precise initiatives." Members called on the Italian government to recognize unequivocally the right of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to take part in international talks aimed at ending the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Shultz: Peace chances not promising

BONN (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Friday the prospects for peace in the Middle East were not promising but the willingness of leaders in the region to listen to his proposals gave some hope. "The prospects don't look particularly promising," Shultz said from Washington in a satellite television news conference. "Nevertheless, we do have an approach that has at least attracted everybody's attention and nobody wants to say 'no' to it," Shultz said. "Even if the probabilities of a breakthrough are small we think it's important to keep working at it."

Herzog cuts sentences of Jewish terrorists

TEL AVIV (R) — Three Jewish terrorists convicted of murdering Palestinians at the occupied West Bank had their jail sentences cut to 15 years by Israeli President Chaim Herzog, Israel Radio reported Friday. West Bank settlers Uzi Shabaf, Shaul Nir and Menachem Livni were sentenced to life in jail for a 1984 attack on the Hebron Islamic College, where four Palestinians died and more than 30 were wounded. A year ago, Herzog commuted their life sentences to 24 years, making them eligible for a further reduction for good behavior. The radio said this time Herzog was commuting the sentences of 80 prisoners, including 26 serving life terms.

Carbomb suspect ordered held

NICOSIA (R) — A Lebanese arrested after a bungled car bomb attempt on the Israeli embassy in Nicosia was remanded in custody for a further eight days by a Cyprus court Friday. A police prosecutor said evidence suggested Omar Ahmad Hawilo, 25, was linked to the bombing which killed two Cypriots and the Lebanese driver of the car and injured 19 people. But he said police needed more time to question about 70 people, including foreigners, who might also be involved.

State of emergency lifted in Dakar

DAKAR (R) — A state of emergency in force in the Senegalese capital Dakar since street riots erupted Feb. 29 was lifted under a presidential decree issued Friday. President Abdou Diouf had promised earlier in the week to end the emergency which banned open-air political gatherings and gave police wide powers of arrest. An overnight curfew, imposed on the capital since youths went on the rampage following presidential and legislative elections Feb. 28, was lifted last month.

Senate defeats INF amendments

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Friday overwhelmingly rejected an attempt by conservative critics of the U.S.-Soviet missile treaty to link the pact to alleged Soviet cheating on five other arms-control agreements. In a series of five votes, the Senate killed, piece by piece, the amendment proposed by Republican Senator Steve Symms. Symms' amendment noted that President Ronald Reagan has told Congress the Soviets were violating the SALT I and SALT II treaties.

Over 17,000 Palestinians under detention; Israel rejects U.S. request for joint probe

Israeli army imposes massive presence to foil Jerusalem protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A massive Israeli military presence and strict blockade on access to Muslim worshippers to holy shrines in Jerusalem appeared to have averted Palestinian protests in the Holy City Friday.

Soldiers at checkpoints turned back Palestinians attempting to enter Jerusalem from the occupied West Bank in stricter security controls than normal, Arab sources quoted by Reuters said. "I was turned back four times," said a Ramallah resident who works in Jerusalem. He said he finally succeeded in entering

the city by a back road. Police at Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif wrote down the names of Palestinians going to prayers in the Al Aqsa Mosque, but there were no demonstrations afterwards as there have been in past weeks. The occupied territories were also quiet. The army put a curfew on the Sha'it refugee camp in Gaza, a military spokesman said. Troops arrested Thursday

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Syrians ready to enter south Beirut after Damascus-Tehran agreement

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian troops and tanks were on standby Friday while Iran and Syria discussed how to deploy them in Beirut's southern suburbs to end bitter fighting between rival Shi'ite militias. "The Iranian-Syrian negotiations have moved to discussing the details of the deployment and setting the zero hour for the entry," a pro-Syrian political source told Reuters. Syria and Iran, although allies, are split on how to end two weeks

of bloody battles for control of the suburbs between their local followers, the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) and the pro-Syrian Amal militia. Sources close to both sides said the dispute centred on whether the Syrians would disarm the Hizbollah militants, who have won control of 80 per cent of the suburbs. The differences emerged after Syria sent about 7,000 troops, backed by 75 tanks and 40 troop carriers, to throw a tight cordon

Palestinians clash at Bourj Al Barajneh

BEIRUT (R) — Fierce battles erupted between fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian-backed Palestinians at a Beirut refugee camp Friday after a week-long lull in their bitter feud, Palestinian sources said. Rival fighters were trading heavy mortar and rocket fire in the narrow alleyways of Bourj Al Barajneh camp, they said. The thump of explosions echoed across Beirut.

There were no immediate casualty reports and it was not known what triggered the fighting in the battered camp between Arafat loyalists and the Syrian-backed Abu Musa faction. The shooting shattered a May 14 ceasefire between the rival groups in Bourj Al Barajneh, which is near Beirut's southern suburbs, now ringed by Syrian troops preparing to move in to end inter-Shi'ite battles. Fateh loyalists seized six positions held by Abu Musa fighters in the sprawling camp during fierce street battles last week in which at least 26 Palestinians were wounded. Syrian troops on the airport highway, which runs alongside both Bourj Al Barajneh and the southern suburbs, ran to their sandbagged positions and ordered passing cars away, witnesses said.

Kuwaiti saboteurs described as pious Muslims but misled

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Two Kuwaiti men killed in the explosion of their bomb-laden car in Kuwait were pious Muslims who were duped by criminals, the newspaper Al Qabas said Friday. The daily said combating terrorism should not only mean arresting perpetrators but also "immunising citizens against falling easy prey to protagonists of crime and deepening sentiments of patriotism with the youth."

The paper warned more terrorism should be expected. The blast Wednesday in downtown Kuwait was the third in less than a month and the latest in a spate that started with the December 1988 car-bombing of the U.S. and French embassies and included an attempt in 1985 on the life of the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. "We have to shoulder our historic responsibility... because confining our attitude to condemnation of crimes and counting casualties will be without avail if we want our country to live in peace and security," Al Qabas said.

around the slum area last Saturday. The Syrians have set up Soviet-made multiple rocket launchers at intersections only about 400 metres from Hizbollah positions. Witnesses quoted by Reuters said the Syrian soldiers were standing ready by their tanks, setting up new checkpoints and imposing increased security on the airport road and other entrances to the suburbs. Sources reported sporadic exchanges as the fighting entered its third week.

Syrian-held areas came under artillery fire on Thursday during battles between Hizbollah and Amal which killed five people and wounded 15, raising the casualty toll to 260 killed and 1,100 wounded. Iranian President Ali Khamenei sent a message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Friday. The official Syrian news agency (SANA) said deputy Iranian Foreign Minister Ali-Mohammad Besharati passed on the message during a meeting with Assad. It

(Continued on page 3)

Iran says it is at war with U.S.

BAHRAIN (AP) — Six newly arrived U.S. warships took up station in the Arabian Sea Friday and two others sailed into the Gulf as an Iranian leader declared anew that his country is "at war" with the United States. But there was no sign of hostilities as the U.S. frigates Pharris and Elmer Montgomery, accompanied by the missile frigate John H. Sides, passed through the Strait of Hormuz where Iranian speedboats have attacked two commercial ships in recent days. Iran's parliament speaker, Hashemi Rafsanjani, told a meeting of Revolutionary Guards Corps officials in Tehran that Washington had "officially entered into a war with us."

"Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted him as saying Iran was 'really at war with the United States at the present time.'" The Revolutionary Guards, devotees of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, man the armed speedboats that attack neutral ships in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian tankers and oil facilities in the Gulf. Although U.S. warships now have official clearance to help any neutral ship being attacked, none was closer than 100 kilometres to where the speedboats hit a Japanese-owned tanker Wednesday and a Norwegian ship Thursday, U.S. officials said.

The Pharris and Elmer Montgomery are part of an eight-ship battle group, headed by the aircraft carrier Forrestal, that arrived in the Arabian Sea this week to provide air support for U.S. convoy and patrol operations.

U.N. panel arrives in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A United Nations human rights team arrived in Amman Friday on the first stage of a three-leg Middle East tour to take testimony on Israeli practices in the occupied territories, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said. The three-member committee will stay in Amman until May 24 before going on to Damascus and Cairo to gather further evidence, a U.N. spokesman said in Geneva. The panel is the United Nations' main source of information on the human rights situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and reports each year to the U.N. General Assembly.

Israel has refused to cooperate with the committee or grant it access to the occupied territories, according to a U.N. statement.

The committee, which held a two-day meeting in Geneva before leaving on its fact-finding mission, is chaired by Daya Perera, Sri Lanka's ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

"The issues discussed included Israeli policy regarding the treatment of Palestinian demonstrators, judicial practices as they applied to the uprising, public health, working conditions, press freedom and economic policy," the U.N. said. The two other members of the committee are Dragan Jovanic, a Yugoslav professor of law, and Alioune Sene, Senegalese ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva.

The hope to interview Palestinians expelled by Israel in recent months from the occupied territories — an act forbidden by the 1949 Geneva Convention. Jordan, Egypt, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Arab League have given information to the committee.

The U.N. team was received upon its arrival here by representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Occupied Territories and the deputy head of the U.N. office in Amman.



HM King Hussein

Morocco to attend Arab summit

RABAT (R) — Morocco will attend a special Arab summit due to open in Algiers June 7, an official source said Friday.

The decision follows agreement by Algeria and Morocco last Monday to restore diplomatic relations after a 12-year rift. The source said it was not yet known whether King Hassan himself would head the Moroccan delegation to the summit which will concentrate on rallying Arab support for the Palestinian uprising.

The Moroccan monarch met Algerian President Chadli Benjedid twice on their frontier, in February 1983 and in May last year, before relations were finally restored, but it would be the king's first visit to Algeria since Rabat severed ties in 1976.

The source said the appointment of ambassadors was imminent and was likely to be followed shortly by bilateral talks to settle questions like the reopening of the frontier.

Road and rail traffic between Algeria and Morocco has been suspended since the two countries fell out over the Western Sahara, where Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco for control of the former Spanish colony.

U.N. report highlights Sahara deadlock, page 5

Gorbachev, Abdul Meguid hold talks

MOSCOW (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Friday held talks on bilateral relations and the Middle East, Egyptian sources said. The sources said Abdul Meguid passed to Gorbachev a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during the 45-minute meeting. Later, the Egyptian minister began talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, the sources said. His visit is the first by an Egyptian foreign minister to Moscow since the 1970s, when Cairo turned towards the United States. But the past three years have seen a steady improvement in relations between the two countries. "We attach major importance to Soviet-Egyptian relations and note that these are developing positively," Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky said Thursday. Speaking at a regular news briefing, Petrovsky said the visit was important for developing dialogue on the Middle East and solving the problems of the region. Analysts said the Egyptian minister's visit was aimed at boosting the Middle East peace process ahead of the Moscow superpower summit.

Back to work today after 'Eid; King receives greetings

AMMAN (J.T.) — All government departments and organisations return to work Saturday after a five-day holiday on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr which marked the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan. On the occasion, His Majesty received cables of congratulations from leaders of Arab and Islamic countries. The King exchanged 'Eid Al Fitr greetings with the leaders of Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Syria over the phone in the course of this week, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. The King also exchanged views with the Arab leaders on the current Arab situation, Petra said. The King Friday received more cables of congratulations and wishes for continued good health and happiness. The cables were received from Mauritania President Maouya Ould Sidi Ahmad Taya and Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, Petra said.

Al Akhbar welcomes Jordan's call for pan-Arab force

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein's call for the formation of a pan-Arab rapid deployment force to defend Arab countries has been welcomed by the Cairo daily Al Akhbar, which described the proposal as a courageous invitation to the Arabs that should be seriously considered. The paper said Friday that the formation of the Arab force would mean taking the "first practical and concrete step for the implementation of the Joint Arab Defence Pact as included in the Arab League Charter. The paper said the King's call should be implemented as soon as possible, especially in view of the dangers and the challenges to which the Arab World is exposed and in view of Iran's continued threats in the Gulf region.

French parties haggle to avert Socialist victory

PARIS (R) — French conservatives met with centrists Friday for last minute haggling to seal an uneasy alliance which they hope can prevent a leftist victory in next month's general election. The snap election, called last Saturday, has given the parties little time to smooth over internal differences and complete the list of candidates they will present to voters in each of France's 577 constituencies during the first round of voting June 5. In France's complex two-round system, deals have to be made in advance to avoid rivals splitting the ticket and handing the election to the opposition. Candidate lists are due to close in 24 hours. Several opinion polls published this week indicate the new Socialist government of Prime Minister Michel Rocard would win more than 40 per cent of the national vote in the first round, the best score in the Socialists' 17-year history.

Socialist President Francois Mitterrand called the election after winning a historic second term May 8, hoping his personal popularity would carry the Socialists to back to power after two years in opposition. Jacques Toubon, general secretary of the Gaullist RPR (Rally for the Republic), said the newly-formed centre-right URC alliance had agreed to put up

single candidates in over 500 constituencies. But power-sharing agreements had failed to materialise in some 70 constituencies, where the Socialist candidate would be able to exploit a divided opposition, political sources said. Any candidate winning more than 12.5 per cent of the vote in the first round qualifies for the second round, but alliances are generally formed so that a straight left-right contest is fought in the final ballot, which will be held June 12.

The right's main problem is the populist National Front, thrown into national prominence by the success of its leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, and now threatening to split the right-wing vote again and keep the URC from power.

The RPR, fearing a backlash from its centrist partners in the URC alliance, has refused the National Front's calls for a common right-wing campaign plan on the national scale.

U.S. sees no surprises at Moscow summit

MOSCOW (Agencies) — A senior American official said Friday he expected progress and no surprises on most problems at issue between the United States and the Soviet Union at the coming Moscow summit. The official said that although signing of a strategic arms reduction (START) treaty during the four-day meeting was now effectively excluded, the summit would consolidate "a framework of dialogue" between the superpowers.

The summit begins May 29 when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev welcomes U.S. President Ronald Reagan at Moscow's VIP Vnukovo-2 airport just under six months after they met in Washington to sign an intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty. The U.S. official, who declined to be identified, told Reuters the key topics for discussion at the meeting would be arms control, human rights and regional issues. "I have no doubt we will push ahead in most areas, if not all," he added.

The official, who has been closely involved in past summits between Gorbachev and Reagan, said the two powers "want to move rapidly but not precipitously... we do not feel we are negotiating under a deadline." A string of recent meetings between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, as well as other diplomatic contacts, "have given us a good idea of what is possible," he added. "The general content of our expectations is very much similar. There is going to be no unexpected disappointment on either side, and there are no unrealistic expectations about how far we can go."

No Mideast progress Michael Armacost, the State Department's top expert on regional conflicts, said Thursday in a Washington news conference he thought the summit was unlikely to secure Soviet agreement to a U.S. demand that the U.N. Security Council pass a mandatory arms embargo against Iraq. Armacost said Soviet officials had agreed at the last summit in Washington in December to

Israeli crackdown on Palestinian universities in occupied territories

This is the second part of a six part series in which the exercise of academic freedoms in Palestinian universities of the occupied Arab territories are discussed. This study was presented to the UNESCO at its hundred and twenty-seventh session by Father Edouard Bone.

Academic freedom

The main question dealt with by the Rapporteur concerns the exercise of academic freedom(s) in the universities of the West Bank and Gaza. The principle of academic freedom is neither codified in international law nor defined in the major reference documents on human rights. However, the various freedoms proclaimed by universally recognised codes and declarations include concrete examples of academic freedom, with explicit reference to:

Access to education, the right to education, freedom of speech and assembly, freedom of cultural expression, non-discrimination, the right to privacy, freedom of movement, protection against arbitrary detention and all forms of inhuman or degrading treatment, etc.

As a working hypothesis, the definition given by Roberts, Joergensen and Newman is adopted here. Academic freedom is usually understood as being exercised in those educational, research and administrative functions which a higher educational establishment may discharge without let or hindrance or pressure of any kind, in particular the freedom to teach, to learn, to organise curricula, to acquire books and periodicals, to recruit staff, to leave or enter the campus and to improve or develop facilities.

It may be assumed in advance that this freedom may occasionally be jeopardised by a power outside the university, such as the state itself, and a fortiori, by a foreign administration or a state of belligerency. This, indeed, has been the experience, or at least the alleged experience, of the Palestinian universities for many years now. In the circumstances created by the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, what, in fact, is the situation?

As regards the Palestinian universities in the territories occupied by Israel, the question of academic freedom does not appear to affect — explicitly at least — the right of these universities to exist. The government of Israel has at least allowed them to develop from pre-existing institutions, or to be created outright. It even occasionally — and, it is argued, improperly — claims their patrimony. On November 20, 1983 the Israeli Ministry for Foreign Affairs explicitly stated that academic activity proceeded without any interference whatsoever from the Israeli administration. More recently (July 1986), the Ministry of Defence published an eighteen-year survey written by the coordinator of government operations in the territories stating that since 1967 Israel's continuing policy as regards academic freedom had been to maintain and promote total freedom in all the educational institutions in the regions concerned. Intense efforts had

been made to give teachers and students the maximum amount of independence in the pursuit of legitimate academic aims. There was no intervention by the Israeli administration in this domain. It was only when security was jeopardised, inside or outside the campus, that the authorities then assumed the responsibilities devolving on them under international law, for the purpose of restoring public order, first and foremost for the safety and welfare of the local population.

The same official Ministry of Defence document specifies the Israeli government's explicit views on freedom of assembly and freedom of the press. Military Order No. 101 provides that a special permit is required for any marches, meetings, the manufacture of flags and emblems and publications of political literature; authorisation may be refused if it is clear that the assembly or demonstration will lead to a movement or propaganda liable to pose a threat to public order. Press censorship is applied only to passages manifestly inciting to hatred and disorder.

Thus strictly speaking the universities do have the right to exist. This right is formally recognised in the quota of the licences granted to each of them, renewable annually, which specify in each case the departments or specialisations authorised and the number of student places available. It is, rather, the functioning of the institutions which is at issue, and it is here that some people consider that academic freedom is at risk. One side advances the requirements of security to justify certain restrictive measures, checks, censorship, closures, raids and searches, arrests and detention; while on the other side the requirements of training and education, research, and the promotion of culture and national identity cause a revolt against measures which are deemed unjustified, illegal and arbitrary, if not provocative or systematically malicious. The crux of the matter lies, therefore, in the way people behave and act, and in the practical provisions in force; to this should be added the question of interpretation, for there can be different ways of reacting to a situation or justifying a particular measure, and the subjective or contingent nature of a decision should not be underestimated.

The fact remains that there are very many points of friction and that recurrent serious and sometimes dramatic clashes have been recorded, which impede the smooth functioning of the universities and amply raise the question of the basic exercise of academic freedom.

Following is a non-exhaustive list of such points of friction might include:

As regards the right to education: "Official" closures; checkpoints and road blocks or "de facto" closures; denial of university education to detainees; house arrest.

As regards freedom of expression: Censorship of books and periodicals; restrictions on the introduction of new courses.

As regards freedom of research: Restriction on the field of investigation, field research and application; restrictions on travel and study trips.

As regards freedom of assembly: Provocations, checks, searches and raids; physical violence by members of the army and settlers.

As regards the right to cultural identity: Falsification of textbooks, syllabuses, etc.; obstacles to cultural expression.

As regards non-discrimination: The question of taxes and customs duties on educational, scientific and cultural material; refusal of building permits; refusal of work permits.

As regards the right to privacy: Forcible entry.

Non-protection against arbitrary detention and degrading or inhuman treatment.

As regards freedom of movement: House arrest.

Right to education — freedom of expression and research

Official closure of universities

Numerous official closures of universities have been decided on by the Israeli authorities in recent years. Various responsible publications by the competent university authorities have kept a precise record of these closures, setting out a list of them and providing information on the exact circumstances. A recent document gives the following data for the period 1979-1986:

Universities	Number of closures	Number of days lost
Birzeit	13	550
Al Najah	9	527
Bethlehem	8	180
Gaza	8	311
Hebron	6	81
Hebron Polytechnic	3	138

On June 17, 1985 Israeli authorities pledged to reduce collective punitive measures against universities to an absolute minimum, usually invoked in the interest of "security." Unfortunately in the last few months there has been a fresh wave of official closures affecting all the Palestinian universities, and in this respect this year (1987) will have been the most troubled one in their history. During our visit in July 1987, we heard reports of several particularly prejudicial and serious cases of closure during the current academic year. In 1986-1987 alone, Birzeit was closed four times: for a whole month from December 8, 1986 to January 3, 1987, on its former campus; from February 18 to 21, 1987; from March 27 to 30, 1987; and, the longest closure, from April 13 to August 13, 1987 — i.e. a total of some 150 days. Bethlehem was closed on three occasions for a total period of some three weeks. Al Najah was closed six times: On December 8, 1986 for one week; on January 2,

1987 for one week; on January 11 for another week; on January 20 for four days; on February 6, "preventively" for one day; on February 17 for one month; and on March 27 for two weeks. Hebron University was closed twice for a total of four weeks. Hebron Polytechnic was closed on March 17, 1987, without any violent incidents being reported. There were closures at Gaza, Abu-Dis and El Bireh, disrupting the academic year, in some cases seriously.

Admittedly the responsible military authorities expressed to us their reluctance to take such radical measures, and explained that they were obliged to be covered each time by their superiors in the occupying administration. They said that they regretted this force of circumstances, and also that they were compelled to give precedence to physical security and the protection of human lives over the regular functioning of each institution.

It is extremely difficult for an outsider to appraise the relevance of the "security" argument put forward to justify a particular past circumstance. A very large number of depositions, detailed accounts and officially-noted evidence by eye-witnesses of the events, giving virtually blow-by-blow accounts of incidents, as well as documentary films, suggest that often — all too often — clumsy, if not systematic provocation is the cause of many incidents; and also that closure orders very often exceed reasonable "security" requirements.

Leading Israeli personalities whose reputation is beyond all doubt confirmed to me this impression of clumsy "provocation"

on the part of the occupying power. They told me how much better it would be for the army to keep out of sight and to maintain a discreet low-profile policy in the matter of surveillance and non-interference. The presence of the military usually acts as a detonator in the event of an otherwise perfectly peaceful demonstration or celebration. I had occasion to attend two of these student celebrations, at Hebron and Al Najah. One was the celebration of a day of Palestinian literature, and in the other, various groups (Islamic, nationalist...) had gathered to prepare for elections to the students' council. I saw for myself how, in the absence of any obvious or provocative military presence, the students' gatherings proceeded entirely peacefully, with the university authorities keeping a discreet but attentive watch over events.

Furthermore, whatever the possible justification or provocative character of any particular intervention by the Israeli forces,

one cannot fail to speculate on whether specific measures to close a university are in proportion to the security objective. The recent closure of Birzeit University (on April 13, 1987) is perhaps a particularly telling example. The events have been fully documented in a substantiated report published a few days after the grievous confrontations which for the second time this academic year took their toll in human lives. We do not presume to contest the justification for closing the university in order to allow the situation to calm down immediately after the violent incidents of April 13. But one may question the significance of a justification for closing the university for a long period of four months, right up to the middle of the summer holidays. In what way does such a prolonged closure contribute to security and a return to calm? Paralyzing the university's entire administrative apparatus, throwing academic staff into unemployment by prohibiting entry into the university campus and access to libraries, laboratories and seminars, halting peaceful research activities at a time when there would in any case be very few students on the campus and no teaching activities — it may well be asked whether all this has anything to do with concerns for security. Once the April events were over, closing the university looked like a collective sanction rather than a measure to restore calm; far from enabling those concerned to concentrate once more, undisturbed, on their academic pursuits, it necessarily exacerbated the feeling of deep frustration, and nurtured resentment that is liable to lead to fresh confrontations; at the very least, it impeded even further, without any apparent gain, the functioning of the university.

Generally speaking, irrespective of the events of December 1986 and April 1987 on the Birzeit campus, there can be no doubt that the repeated closures of universities have an extremely harmful effect on the life of these establishments. Apart from the fact that they maintain a grievous climate of instability and a constant state of irritation, they seriously compromise academic life, students' concentration on their studies, the worthwhileness of courses and the quality of research. They hold up or disorganise courses to the detriment of all of these aims.

The university authorities are led to make up for these closures by providing extra-curricular tuition (during holiday periods, or early in the morning and late at night, at times when moving about is dangerous because of possible clashes with settlers or armed patrols). The extra cost of this teaching is estimated in some universities at half a million dollars per month of closure. With determination and courage, university authorities and students alike accept the sacrifices entailed by these measures to safeguard and protect academic life at all costs, but not without having to suffer the extremely hard consequences of doing so. Al Najah

University, for example, will not complete its academic year until the end of September 1987. It is obvious, in the circumstances, that summer courses have to be cancelled or considerably reduced, all available time being set aside mainly to make up for the weeks or months of closure during the regular academic year. I myself observed this factual situation in several places, for instance at Bethlehem, at the graduation ceremony on July 18, 1987.

Checkpoints and road-blocks

University rectors and presidents consider that the right to education and academic freedom are also threatened by the many road-blocks put up at the entrances to campuses. They suggested in conversation with me that this is part of a subtle systematic policy of obstructing academic life. Birzeit University alone suffered the obstruction of road-blocks on 35 occasions during the 1985-1986 year. I have before me a very specific document giving a list of these road-blocks from October 15, 1986 to April 15, 1987 at two establishments. It reports checkpoints set up at the entrances to the university, which in practice barred students from entering (either because they were formally prohibited from doing so, or because they were afraid of having their identity papers confiscated, or because they gave up after being turned away on two or three successive days):

October 15, at Birzeit
October 18, at Birzeit
October 30, at Birzeit
November 1, at Al Najah
November 3, at Abu Dis and Birzeit
November 5, at Birzeit
November 10, at Al Najah

November 15, at Birzeit
November 18, at Birzeit
November 29, at Birzeit
November 30, at Birzeit
December 1, at Birzeit
December 4, at Birzeit
January 12, at Birzeit
January 27, at Al Najah
February 12, at Birzeit
April 13, at Birzeit

The road-blocks are regularly the scene of more or less heated disputes or provocations, which not infrequently degenerate into what can be serious. For instance on December 4, 1986, during an incident which escalated at a checkpoint at the entrance to Birzeit University, two students were killed and another 11 wounded.

Bearing in mind the large number of weeks or months for which some universities were officially closed during this period, this list of *de facto* closures, while no doubt not exhaustive, speaks for itself. It shows that Bethlehem, for instance, was "inoperative" for 70 days.

Military order No. 854 and work permits

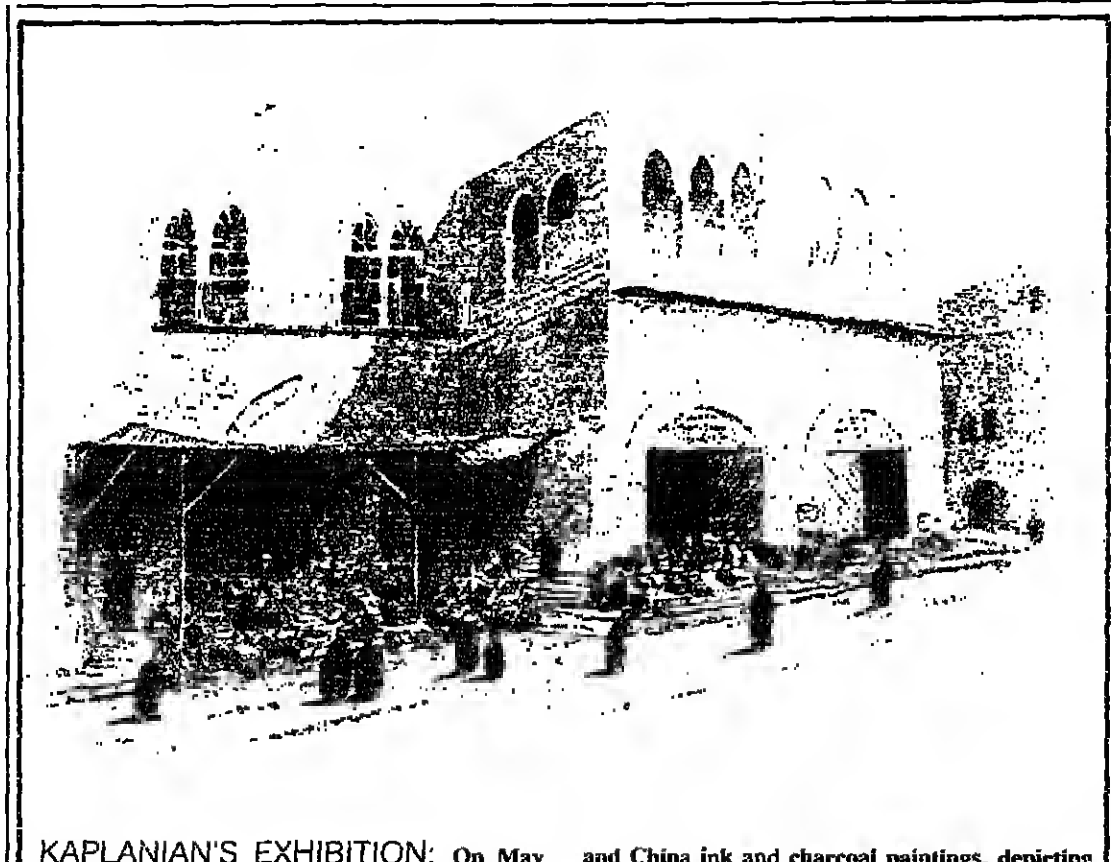
Promulgated in July 1980 by the Israeli military administration, order No. 854 was aimed at imposing tighter control over universities by means of a series of measures concerning teachers, students and the institutions themselves. This order has been examined in detail several times in various documents and reports submitted to UNESCO. It has been criticised for opening the door to violations of academic freedom and to manoeuvres for political and military ends.

It has sometimes been seen as constituting an unwarranted modification of Jordanian or

Egyptian legislation, contrary to the Geneva Convention IV relating to the responsibilities of an occupying power. On this particular point, it should perhaps be made clear that there is not strictly applicable Jordanian or Egyptian law concerning the functioning of universities in occupied territories. There are no private universities in these countries, and the various laws and regulations on universities are all specific to the particular university for which they were passed.

That being said, it should be noted that authorised Israeli sources have acknowledged that order No. 854 is "stupid and regrettable." This admission moreover, with the local and international protest raised when the order was first promulgated (notably by a group of professors from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem) which led to the suspension of the order on October 10, 1982, so that in fact it has never been applied.

Along the same lines, work permits were made compulsory for visiting professors and lecturers in the West Bank ("visitors" include even Jordanian nationals, resident on the West Bank but physically absent from the territories during the 1967 events). At the time, the granting of such a permit was contingent on an "undertaking of loyalty" whereby the applicants undertook to refrain from giving any assistance to the PLO or "any other terrorist organisation." This requirement, considered to be unjustly political, raised a storm of protest and gave rise to a number of deportations or refusals to renew work permits (for instance those of some 28 university teachers at Al Najah).



KAPLANIAN'S EXHIBITION: On May 22, 1988, the Goethe Institute will hold an art exhibition by George S. Kaplanian, which will be officially opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan. There will be 45 watercolours and China ink and charcoal paintings, depicting various scenes of Jordan and Syria, scenes that the artist has sketched and noted down their details throughout his trips, particularly those he undertakes with the Friends of Archaeology.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Kuran
15:30 Family programme
15:55 Cartoons and children programmes
17:25 Olympic Games
18:00 Local news
19:15 Family programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:35 Arabic play
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Play contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Le chevalier de pardalton (French series)
19:00 News in French
19:15 Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:40 News Summary
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Mr. Belvedere
21:10 Man and Music
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Lady of the River"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 940 KHz. SW
Tel. 72111-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Hisselle: The Story of Motwan
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental/Old Jazzy tunes
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 Newsweek/Music
20:00 The Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 The Musical in Review
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Concerts
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

APR. 720, 1221 KHz

07:00 News 07:30 Here's Humphrey
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News
08:00 World News 08:00 24 Hours
08:15 Summary 08:30 Personal News
08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsweek
09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News
10:09 24 Hours News Summary 10:30
From the Weeklies 10:45 Network UK
11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections
11:15 A Day's Good Show 12:00 World
News 12:09 British Press Review 12:15
The World Today 12:30 Financial
News followed by Sports Roundup
12:45 Personal View 13:00 News Summary
13:05 Newsweek 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 People and Politics
14:00 World News 14:09 News about Britain 14:15 Big Bank — The
Singles 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio
Sportsworld contd. 17:45 World News
18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 Sports
world 19:00 World News 19:09 Comments
19:15 Sportsweek 19:30 World
News 20:09 Book Choice 20:15
The Ken Bruce Show 20:45 Sports
Roundup 21:00 Newsweek 21:30 Play
of the Week: Master of the Baroque
22:00 News Summary followed by
Play of the Week: Intimate Exchanges
contd. 23:00 World News
23:09 Twenty-Fours: News Summary
23:30 Meridian 24:00 News Summary
followed by Squaring the Triangle
People and Politics 01:00 World News
01:09 From Our Own Correspondent
01:25 Book Choice 01:30 New Ideas
01:40 Reflections 01:45 Sports Roundup
02:00 World News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1240 & SW 7220, 4565, 11740, 11925 and 15710 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00
News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News
09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10
Closeup 10:30 Press Conference, USA
10:40 News 11:10 American Viewpoints
11:30 Special English News & Features
12:00 News 20:00 News 20:10 Weekend
21:00 News 21:10 Closeup 21:30 Special
English News & Features 22:00
News 22:10 American Viewpoints
22:40 Press Conference, USA 23:00
News 23:10 Music, USA Jazz 23:55
Editorial 23:55 Editorial 24:00 News
01:10 Communications World 01:30
Weekend Magazine

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.
★ Art exhibition by George Kaplanian at the Goethe Institute

VIDEO

★ "Tele-actualities du mois" at 5:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 601027
American Centre 643371
American Cultural Library 641520
British Council 636178
French Cultural Centre 627809
Goethe Institute 641093
Soviet Cultural Centre 642303
Spanish Cultural Centre 624019
Turkish Cultural Centre 629772
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667160
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. 662251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 943555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes from 100 years old. Also moieties from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabat Al Aqaba (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphiya Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphiya Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624501
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh. Tel. 637401
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661257
Terzanta Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lweibdeh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Ahdah. Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 625303. chaplain's residence tel. 601852.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeirani. Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir S11395.
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Inter-denominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 820465. Rev. Val.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) R15817, R21264

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. 181 52405, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
10:15 Athens (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:30 Damascus (RJ)
10:30 Karachi, Dhaka (RJ)
10:50 Dhahran (RJ)
10:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:40 Miami, Vienna (RJ)
19:00 Athens (RJ)
19:05 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
20:40 Tripoli (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

02:45 Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
15:45 Tripoli (UN)
16:00 Riyadh (SV)
17:35 Rome (AI)
18:05 Kuwait (RJ)
21:15 Frankfurt, Damascus (RJ)
22:35 Paris, Damascus (AF)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

08:00 Athens (RJ)
11:45 Tripoli (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:30 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Paris (RJ)
12:45 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
12:55 Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
13:00 London (RJ)
13:30 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:35 Kuwait (RJ)
20:50 Bahrain, Dhaka (RJ)
21:00 Tel Aviv (RJ)
21:45 Abu Dhabi, Dhaka (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

04:05 Istanbul, Belgrade (JL)
06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
09:15 Baghdad, Beirut (ME)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
16:40 Kuwait (UN)
17:40 Riyadh (SV)
18:20 Cairo (MS)
18:55 Damascus (AZ)
20:40 Kuwait (KU)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc (for 10) 96.3 / 99.8
Dutch guilder 179.3 / 186.1
French franc 56.2 / 61.6
Italian lira (for 100) 27.1 / 28.1
Japanese yen (for 100) 272.1 / 282.3
Swedish crown 57.5 / 58.8
Swiss franc 242. / 251.2
U.S. Sterling pound 64.7 / 65.4
U.S. dollar 134.7 / 141.3
W. German mark 301.4 / 306.9

PRAYER TIMES

03:55 Fair
15:25 (Sunrise) Doha
16:15 Doha
16:35 Asir
19:37 Maghrib
21:09 Isha

WEATHER

It would be rather cloudy during the day with light drizzle in temperature and north-westerly moderate winds. In Asir, it would be drizzle with northerly moderate winds and calm sea.
Min-max temp
Amman 18 / 31
Aqaba 24 / 38
Doha 18 / 34
Jordan Valley 19 / 35
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 19 per cent, Aqaba 19 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ali Asad 897919
Dr. A. Awad 849670
Dr. Jamal Abu Baker 746426
Dr. Isam Abu Ruz 611794
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 773336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Naimah pharmacy 626782
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yaacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeirani pharmacy 637600

TAXIS

Talal taxi 640031
Venice taxi 644584
Afour taxi 623330
Tamel taxi 813581
Nahla taxi 663933
Holiday taxi 663100
Sayed taxi 604422
Middle East taxi 646415

IRRID:

Dr. A. Saboun 775793
Al Shams pharmacy 775825

ZARQA:

Sub-committees plan expatriates conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat has formed sub-committees to prepare for the July 11-14 Jordanian Expatriates Conference.

The minister himself is the chairman of a committee prepar-

ing for the conference, the fourth of its kind, to be held in the Kingdom this summer.

The 11 sub-committees will pave the way for the conference and take charge of financial transfers and organisational affairs.

Amman to host Arab chemists conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The eighth Arab Chemists Federation Conference will be held in Amman between June 13 and 17 according to an announcement by the Jordanian Chemists Association.

The announcement said that a preparatory committee has in-

cluded all Jordanian and Arab chemists to take part in the conference which will review research papers dealing with the role of chemistry in promoting Arab development projects and teaching chemistry at school and university levels.

Regional symposium on population opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A regional symposium on population and the development of human resources will be opened here Saturday at the University of Jordan by the University President Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, according to a report in the local Arabic newspapers.

The three-day symposium has been organised by the university in cooperation with Ministry of Labour and Social Development and the International Labour

Organisation (ILO). Among the topics to be discussed during the seminar are population and human resources in Jordan, the impact of foreign labourers on Jordan's labour market and unemployment in Jordan.

Taking part in the seminar are specialists from Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the ILO and the Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCWA).

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TRANSPORT TALKS: The cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to the executive bureau meeting of the Arab Transport Ministers Council due to open in Tunis on June 21. Minister of Transport Khaled Al Haj Hassan will lead the delegation to the six-day meeting, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

LONDON MAYOR: The Lord Mayor of London will arrive in Amman on May 24 on a visit at the invitation by the Greater Amman Municipality. Al Dustour Arabic daily said that the London mayor will spend several days in Amman attending the opening of the bridges at the Sports City interchange and will hold talks with Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh on promoting cooperation between London and Amman.

136 SUMMER CLUBS: Ministry of Education has completed arrangements for setting up 136 summer clubs throughout the Kingdom during July and August, according to reports in the local Arabic daily newspapers. These clubs will provide entertainment for some 20,000 students during the summer holiday.

UNIFIED CUSTOMS CENTRE: Jordan and Iraq will soon make contacts to facilitate border procedures between the two countries and to set up a unified customs centre, according to reports in the local Arabic dailies.

16,290 TREES: A total of 16,290 trees and bushes were planted by the Greater Amman Municipality in April in the municipality's various public gardens in the country.

MOTHER, CHILD CARE: The Ministry of Health will hold a national conference on mother and child care during the first week of June in cooperation with the World Bank and the World Health Organisation (WHO), according to a report in the local Arabic papers. The holding of the conference was discussed recently between Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and a World Bank delegation. Taking part in the planned conference in addition to Jordan are the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), and the European Community (EC).

5 killed in different incidents

AMMAN (J.T.) — At least five people were killed and more than 40 others injured in incidents and accidents that occurred in the Kingdom during the Eid Al Fitr holiday which started Monday.

A report in the Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that Civil Defence Department (CDD) teams were called out to put out 64 fires and rescue people in road accidents which resulted in the destruction of 16 vehicles.

Fires also caused the destruction of crops and nearly 290 trees in 3,235 dunums of land around

the country. The report said that at least 1,973 people were admitted to hospital in the country during the holiday for treatment from various injuries and food poisoning including children injured from falls.

Al Bashir Hospital in Amman had the lion's share of patients arriving at its emergency ward for treatment, the report noted.

The paper also reported derailments of three trains operating in the southern regions of the country.

One of the trains, the report said, was carrying 504 tonnes of phosphate. The derailment was caused by expansion of the iron rail due to the intensive heat, the second derailment resulted in heavy damages to a train and its six compartments.

The third train was derailed near Al Jurf district, also causing heavy damage to the locomotive and the wagons.

CDD teams were called out to offer help and put out fires that engulfed the trains.

Underwater photo contest to open

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first International Underwater Photo Contest will open in Aqaba on May 22.

Pioneers of all diving activities in the Kingdom will take part in the contest which aims at building on the success of previous and similar events which

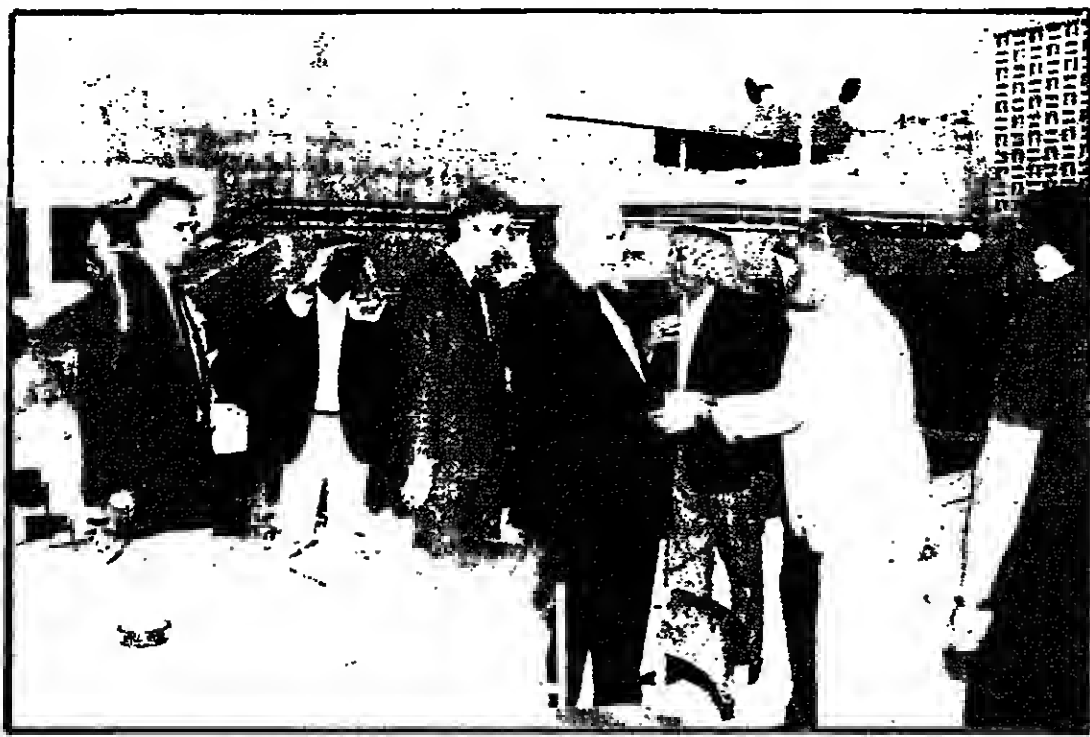
were hosted by Aquamarina and Hotel Club and organised by the Belgium Diving Federation.

Selected members of the jury for the contest have been invited from Belgium, Portugal, Italy, The Netherlands, Germany and England.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic

Daily said Friday that 60 Jordanian children will take part in the contest along with participants from different countries.

The contest is divided into two categories: according to the organisers: Environment photography (nature) and creative photography.



JEPCO Board Chairman Mohammad Ali Budeir greets veteran workers during the 50th anniversary celebration held in Amman Thursday.

JEPCO marks 50th anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Electric Power Company (JEP- CO) Thursday celebrated its 50th anniversary.

A ceremony, organised by the General Union of Electricity Workers in Amman to mark the occasion, was attended by ministers of tourism, and water and irrigation along with senior government officials and JEPCO's board Chairman Mohammad Ali Budeir.

The General Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions Samir Qarden delivered a speech on the occasion, paying tribute to the pioneers in electric power ser-

vices who, he said, constituted one of the first groups to contribute to the construction of the Kingdom.

Garden also paid tribute to the JEPCO's services in supplying power to the public around the clock, and urged workers for further efforts to serve their country.

Budeir also made a speech on the occasion in which he said that the ceremony was to honour all JEPCO workers and employees on this occasion.

Budeir reviewed the company's development since 1938 and the difficulties it had to overcome.

Towards the end of the ceremony Qarden distributed gifts and awards to JEPCO's veteran workers.

Jordan takes measures against spread of AIDS

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry says it is taking all precautionary measures against the spread of the disease AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) which has so far killed three Jordanians.

Director of the Ministry's Anti-AIDS Division Hani Shammout said in an interview published in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday that two of the 11 AIDS cases discovered in the Kingdom were of foreign nationals who have now left the country.

The rest are Jordanians, four of whom had received blood transfusion while living abroad, Shammout said.

Shammout said his department has organised a series of seminars for Health Ministry doctors and technicians at the blood banks in Jordan, to orient them on means of combating the killer disease.

He said that Jordan does not import any blood from other countries except in rare cases, and the imported quantities undergo screening to ensure the patients' safety.

Shammout said AIDS is being contracted mainly through blood transfusions and homosexuality, and that there is yet no vaccination against the disease nor there has been any hope for any AIDS victim to survive.

On May 10, reports in the local press said that one Jordanian carrier of AIDS has been admitted to hospital in Amman after it was found that he had fallen victim to the killer disease.

According to Shammout, the AIDS incubation period could extend between a few months and several years, before the real symptoms of AIDS start to appear on the patient.

The Health Ministry last October announced the discovery of 12 cases of AIDS in Jordan, eight of the carriers, it said, were Jordanians; and in January 1988 the ministry reported the death of one of the victims who had been undergoing medical treatment in Amman.

His death raised to three the total number of AIDS victims to die in Jordan.

The Ministry last month announced that a national committee charged with taking measures against AIDS was taking up steps to stem the spread of the disease by providing information

to the members of the public on the killer disease.

The committee comprises representatives of the Health Ministry and the Ministries of Education, Interior, Information, Higher Education and Awqaf and Islamic Affairs as well as the Public Security Department, the Bar Association, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the General Union of Federation of Jordanian Women.

Last month, the Arab Health Ministers Council, which convened in Amman, was told that AIDS, which appeared in the Arab World recently, was introduced from outside the region, and there was not a single case originating in any Arab country.

According to Shammout, one of the AIDS victims to die in Jordan had contracted the disease through blood transfusion he received while undergoing an operation in a Gulf Arab country.

He said another victim was a Jordanian student living in the United States since 1980 who was buried in Jordan, and the third was a Jordanian living abroad before coming to settle in Jordan.

Shammout said his department was organising lectures and distributing pamphlets to travellers at Jordanian airports to orient them on means of avoiding the disease.

The interview in Al Ra'i Arabic daily was attached to a poster with a caption reading: "Beware of the Killer disease — AIDS".

The Ministry of Health has also been involved in a wide-scale campaign against smoking and is using drawings and captions in the local press to point to the dangers inherent in smoking.



"Beware of the killer disease — AIDS".

Israeli army imposes massive presence in Jerusalem

(Continued from page 1)

Shaher Sa'ad, head of the General Federation of West Bank Labour Unions, Palestinian sources said. The union represents thousands of Arab workers.

Colonel David Yahav, legal adviser to the army's central command, said the 1,900 Palestinians of the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip who have been detained for up to six months without trial were "security" risks.

"I cannot give you an exact answer in each case, but you can't just put someone under arrest for no reason," he told Israeli Radio.

An Israeli member of parliament said Thursday that democracy in Israel was being eroded by the army orders which allow the arrest of Palestinians without trial.

Dedi Zucker of the Citizens Rights Movement said he wrote to the Israeli bar and the law deans of universities protesting against the "administrative detention" orders.

About 300 Palestinian journalists are among those held under "administrative detention."

In another development, the

Israeli army plans to make the prison system more efficient in an effort to cope with thousands of Palestinians arrested since the start of the uprising, a military source told the AP.

Lawyers for Palestinian prisoners said Thursday that the military justice system has collapsed under the sheer numbers of detainees, noting that many are held incommunicado for weeks or miss court appearances because authorities can't locate them.

"It's a big mess," Israeli lawyer Lea Tsemel told the AP. "The army is completely inefficient."

About 8,100 Palestinians are in prison awaiting trial or serving sentences for specific charges, legislator Zucker said.

Similar figures were released by Law in the Service of Man, a human rights monitoring group founded by lawyers in the West Bank. The organisation said between 7,000-9,000 Palestinians are being held, in addition to about 2,000 administrative detainees.

Since the Dec. 8 start of the uprising, 17,000 Palestinians have been detained, said Jonathan

Kuttab, a lawyer and member of the group. Army officials refused comment.

A leaflet distributed Thursday in Gaza City's Sabra neighbourhood by the clandestine Unified National Leadership of the Uprising and the Sabra national committee asked residents to boycott an Israeli drive to replace identity cards.

Several thousand cards have been replaced in the last two weeks in an operation Israel says is for administrative purposes. But commentators have said the move is intended to increase control over Palestinians.

U.S. request rejected

Israel has rejected a U.S. request to hold a joint investigation of human rights abuses against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a senior Israeli official said Friday.

Yossi Beilin, the foreign ministry's political director general, told Israeli Radio the request was raised at a meeting with two senior State Department officials in Washington this week to dis-

cuss human rights in the occupied territories.

"I was called to discuss... complaints they have regarding human rights, and they asked me to create a joint committee to deal with this specifically," he said from the United States.

"I told them such things are not done," Beilin said. "We wouldn't set up a committee on this sort of subject."

The United States has criticised Israel's use of force, expulsions and collective punishments to combat the five-month Palestinian uprising.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was in the United States for meetings with American officials and was due to return to Israel Friday.

Beilin met Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights, and Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs.

The White House presents an annual report to Congress on human rights issues and American and Israeli officials have warned this year's report on Israel is likely to be unfavourable.

Syrians ready to enter S. Beirut

(Continued from page 1)

gave no details of what it said. It was the first time SANA had reported a contact between Assad and Khamenei since the Amal-Hizbollah fighting erupted two weeks ago.

Besharati has been shuttling between Damascus and Beirut to coordinate efforts to end the fighting.

Diplomats said SANA's announcement of the meeting and the letter could mean that details of the Syrian deployment had been settled.

Sbeikh Mohammad Hussein Fadallah, Hizbollah's spiritual guide, also voiced cautious approval of a Syrian deployment.

"The entry of Syrian troops is a possibility. No one is thinking of confronting the Syrians," he said.

Meanwhile Amman said Friday it blocked an attempt by Hizbollah to swap a foreign hostage for weapons and ammunition from rightist militias.

"Amal has thwarted an attempt by Hizbollah to turn over a foreign hostage to the Lebanese Forces (militia) in return for ammunition and weapons for Hizbollah's besieged base in Hajaj street," said Atif Aoun, a member of Amal's politburo.

Aoun, addressing some 10,000 supporters of Amal in the southern town of Zahran, said the militia foiled the alleged swap "after we found out about the contacts between Hizbollah and the Lebanese Forces." He did not elaborate.

Aoun did not say whether one particular hostage or nationality was involved in the alleged deal.

Iran says it is at war with U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

hut with "global arrogance," a familiar Iranian reference to the United States.

He urged that Iranians increase our military strength... to take more effective and important steps on the war front.

Rafsanjani, who is close to Khomeini, again claimed U.S. forces had participated in last Saturday's devastating Iraqi air strike on the Larak Island oil terminal by jamming Iranian defence radar and radio communications. The Pentagon has denied that.

Rafsanjani warned it was time that Americans "think about the implications of an eventual encounter between Iran and the United States."

IRNA quoted him as saying: "Should this war extend to new

frontiers, the Americans will simply take delivery of the bodies of Americans throughout the world.

"Our nation, which is not prepared to abandon the arena with these threats and intimidation after eight years, should prepare itself from every point of view so as to confront these plots."

He stressed that Iran does not "desire such a situation," but declared: "The American nation should know that a war by the American government with the Iranian nation would cost them dearly."

In Paris, the French Defence Ministry said the mine-bomber Andromede had found and would destroy a mine found in Iran's Rostam oilfield in the south central Gulf, 130 kilometres east of Qatar.



Dear Chris
Well, here I am at last in old Vienna - I should have done it years ago. Friendly people, cobbled streets, beautiful parks and delicious food. A great trip on Royal Jordanian! Vienna's International Airport was so efficient and the welcome was wonderful. A good start for the holiday "Auf Wiedersehen" as they say here.
Love Bob

ROYAL JORDANIAN الملكية الأردنية

Setting new standards.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Responsible Editor and Director General: MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief: RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephone: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2

Telex: 214971 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Continued struggle

WITH the American-Soviet summit meeting in Moscow only 10 days away, we hear American officials in Washington casting doubts on the possibility of reaching consensus on the Middle East between the leaders of the two superpowers. This attitude reflects the true intention of the American administration of trying to avoid this issue in the coming summit, and represents a clear signal to Israel that its occupation of Arab land will go on unhindered. This statement and these reports indicate that Washington is determined to remain the sole manipulator of the situation in the Middle East region and does not wish to abandon its monopoly. It is not strange for Washington to act in this way, but the Americans should realise that they cannot remain dominant, and they cannot continue holding the winning cards in the game. It has become clear for all that the people of Palestine, now struggling for freedom, hold the real trump cards; and their escalation of resistance and through their revolution they can achieve their aspired national goals. Washington should be reminded that the Jordanian six-point document handed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is not subject for compromise at any parley since it contains the basic principles in which the Arab Nation believes and strives to fulfil. The Arabs believe that despite everything and despite the coming superpower summit, the only means for regaining their rights is through continued struggle.

Al Dustour: Bolstering Arab stand

THE favourable response to King Hussein's proposal for the formation of an Arab Rapid Deployment Force to defend Arab countries reflects the Arab people's desire to end all forms of aggression on their land and thwart foreign countries' ambitions in the Arab World. The enthusiastic welcome of the King's ideas underlines the Arab people's desire to start working seriously for their unity and for bolstering their strength in the face of the common enemies. It is no secret that Arab security which has been exposed to several shocks in the past few years can only be preserved through solidarity, unity and collective action. The King who is advocating the idea of the Rapid Deployment Force realises the proportions of challenges and dangers posed against this nation, and is keen on opening the way for joint action to repel this danger. Therefore, we deem it necessary for all coming Arab meetings to take up this proposal and discuss it seriously and in detail, since the aim and the objectives of this idea is to strengthen the Arab stand. There is nothing more important than bolstering the Arab stand at the moment in view of the dangers posed to the nation and with the purpose of preserving Arab security.

Sawt Al Shaab: Shamir blocks peace

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his American allies constitute the stumbling block in the path of convening an international peace conference that would find a just and lasting solution for the Middle East problem. Shamir and his allies are adhering to their intransigent position in the face of the whole world and in contradiction of reason, regardless of the fact that the Arab-Israeli conflict remains the root cause of evil and wars in this region. Shamir who is opposing the idea of peace lives in total illusion since he ignores the facts of history. He is still under the influence of rotten ideas of imposing Zionist rule over the Arab land, and at the same time ignore the Palestinian revolution which is escalating every day. Shamir is stepping up repressive measures against the Arabs and pursuing atrocities against the Palestinians in the hope of executing Zionist plans in the Arab land. Even Shamir's American allies have been criticising the Israeli government's actions, describing them as causing the loss of a real opportunity for peace. Yet, and despite everything, Shamir is adamant in his position and assured of continued American help and support no matter what Israel's policies might be.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Reasons for optimism

PRESIDENT Reagan expressed optimism over a settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict following a meeting in Washington with Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, but he did not reveal the secret behind his optimism. The two men discussed U.S. proposals as advocated by Secretary of State George Shultz with regard to the Middle East problem. But if these proposals were behind this optimism, it should be emphasised that they are still short of meeting Arab demands and, therefore, they are in need of amendments to become more palatable. We also should see a change in the Israeli intransigent position and an acceptance by the Jewish state of the idea of an international conference. Given the present situation we find no reason for any optimism in Washington since nothing has changed in the American and Israeli stands. In contrast, the Arabs have more reason to be optimistic over the situation due to a pan-Arab consensus on the Jordanian six-point document handed over to Shultz during his last trip to the region, due to Arab rejection of any partial settlements and due to Arab countries' determination to reach a comprehensive peace which would allow the Palestinian people to exercise their full rights and regain their lands. In addition, we have reason to be optimistic due to the cohesion that exists among our people, Jordan's total rejection of an alternative Palestinian homeland and the continued uprising in the occupied Arab territories which gives hope for a solution.

Al Dustour: Common cause

KING Hussein ended his tours of Jordanian cities by visiting Tafleeh in southern Jordan on Eid Al Fitr where he greeted the Jordanian people in the East and the West Bank and where he described the uprising of Palestinians as a real revolt designed to end 20 years of injustice and oppression. The King voiced his pride in the uprising which has lasted for six months so far, and paid tribute to the great sacrifices offered by the Arab people in their struggle for freedom. As he did, during earlier iftar banquets in other Jordanian cities, King Hussein said Jordan would continue to extend support for the Palestinian people in every domain until justice is done and until the Palestinians regain their full rights. To support the Palestinian uprising, the King said, Jordan will continue efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference and will reject all plots to establish an alternative homeland for the Palestinians outside their own country. The King reiterated that the Palestinians should represent themselves at future negotiations for a settlement, and that Jordan would persist in efforts to help the Palestinians determine their own future on their own soil.

Palestinian uprising digs in for long haul

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli leaders claim it is dying, but a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip appears to be alive and well, and digging in for a long struggle. After more than five months of revolt against Israeli rule, stone-throwing Palestinians are still clashing with troops daily, despite at least 183 deaths, thousands of injuries and the jailing of nearly 10,000 people.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin noted this week that violence was now far less widespread than between January and March, and said Israeli security and economic measures were gradually exhausting the 1.5 million Palestinians in the occupation zone.

But a confidential report to Rabin by his own experts contradicts these assertions and fore-

casts a long and violent conflict, defence sources say.

Leading Palestinians say Israeli talk of an end to the uprising is mere wishful thinking.

"The *intifada* (uprising) has become institutionalised. It has put down roots that will be very difficult to uproot," said Daoud Kuttab, an East Jerusalem journalist and commentator. "It will stay long after the stones have stopped flying, which incidentally they haven't."

The battle between the Israeli military and the Palestinians has spread from the streets to the homes, workplaces, hearts, minds and wallets of the population.

The Israelis have tried to wear the Arabs down with curfews, harassment, bureaucracy and financial hardship. They have managed to reduce the flow of outside money supporting the uprising to a trickle.

Palestinians have countered with their own self-help organisa-

tions. Kuttab and other Arab intellectuals point to a network of committees which have sprouted like an embryonic self-government in the occupied territories.

NEWS ANALYSIS

The committees organise strikes and run underground schools, basic health and welfare services for casualties of the uprising and families of the imprisoned and those who have quit Israeli jobs. They organise local security vigils, legal aid and agriculture for those who have begun cultivating plots of land.

This organisation has given Palestinians an unprecedented self-esteem and sense of togetherness which is the spirit of the *intifada*.

"Who is losing more, us or the Israelis?" asked Said, a local organiser in the village of Beit Ummar. "Our people have never

felt better, despite the hardships."

The size of crowds that still defy Israeli security forces to demonstrate in occupied Jerusalem and in the hundreds of scattered villages in the West Bank belie Israeli talk of fatigue and demoralisation.

Palestinians may have realised the uprising will not put an early end to the 21-year-old Israeli occupation, as some had believed, but they seem in no mood to stop the revolt.

Hundreds of youths arrested in the first weeks of unrest are due out of Israeli prison camps in the coming weeks. They will return to their villages and refugee camps as hardened political activists, seen as heroes by their society.

Reporters visiting the West Bank village of Deir Ammar, near Ramallah, this week encountered a crowd of some 150 men armed with stone who had been confronting the army all day

after soldiers bulldozed some roadside trees in punishment for rock-throwing at Israeli vehicles.

There are dozens of such incidents daily and they do not rate mention in the Israeli or foreign media unless protesters are killed or seriously wounded.

In other fields, the *intifada* appears to have touched its limits, at least for the moment.

Despite repeated calls and threats in clandestine leaflets, the Israeli-appointed mayors of most West Bank towns have not resigned. A few of the 500 Arab policemen who resigned in the West Bank and Gaza have drifted back to work because they need the money.

There are signs of a debate among Palestinian leaders over what course the uprising should now take.

Some say privately they are worried that the backlash in Israeli society could bring a right-wing victory in next November's general election and

tougher anti-Arab policies.

They suggest the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) counter with a diplomatic initiative towards peace talks.

Many others, however, say the Israeli poll outcome makes no difference to the Palestinians, since all parts of the present "national unity" government agree on repression in the occupied territories.

One hardliner said West Bank and Gaza Strip residents would explode in anger if the PLO, pursuing diplomatic respectability, made a concession towards Israel.

An Israeli army expert on the West Bank said Israeli economic and administrative sanctions had slowed the momentum of the uprising and prevented a complete break between the population and the occupation authorities.

But she added: "Maybe we are seeing the end of round one, not the end of the *intifada*."

Kiss-and-tell damages Reagan's pre-summit image

By Sue Baker
Reuters

WASHINGTON — A series of embarrassing revelations over White House idiosyncrasies, including Nancy Reagan's star-gazing, have heaped ridicule on President Reagan as he heads for crucial summit meetings with world leaders.

Two weeks before the Moscow summit, and a month before the seven-nation economic summit in Toronto, Reagan's image as a strong, politically astute president has been tarnished by a spate of "kiss-and-tell" books by former White House aides.

Already reeling from a global barrage of editorials and cartoons poking fun at the president and his wife over the influence of astrology in their lives, Reagan compounded a sense of White House end-of-term dislocation by flubbing a long-awaited endorsement of his loyal lieutenant George Bush for president.

The president, who leaves office next January, gave what was widely seen as a lukewarm embrace of Bush last Wednesday — even mispronouncing the vice president's name at one point as "Boosh" — and then scrambled to contain the political fall-out by issuing another endorsement in a statement the next day.

Reagan's spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, did his best last week to deflect criticism under tough questioning from White House reporters who insisted on addressing him as "Merlin" after the

Wizard of Camelot.

He denied astrology had played any part in selecting dates for the May 29-June 2 Moscow summit and scoffed at suggestions the president would be weakened by the rumpus in his talks with Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev or the late June economic summit with his fellow Western leaders.

"These are all interesting fun and games here in Washington and people like to read about it but it doesn't influence people in government or people in other countries who are making major policy decisions," Fitzwater said.

Former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, in his book "For the Record: From Wall Street to Washington," published last Monday, disclosed that Nancy Reagan dictated the president's travel plans and schedule after consulting a San Francisco astrologer.

The revelations prompted bemused and angry reaction in the world media, with some lampooning a world leader who let his wife's foibles affect his work, and others voicing concern about what they saw as a "trivialisation" of the presidency.

Most analysts agreed the episode had embarrassed the president and made him look foolish. But they also doubted any of the "Kiss-and-Tell" revelations would permanently damage Reagan's image or harm his negotiations with Gorbachev.

"They give Soviet spokesmen a chance to make wisecracks to kind of put the United States on the defensive a little bit," Helmut

Sonnenfeld, a former State Department official, said.

"But the Soviets don't want to diminish Reagan's stature too much because they want a carry-over (of improving U.S.-Soviet relations) in the next administration," he said.

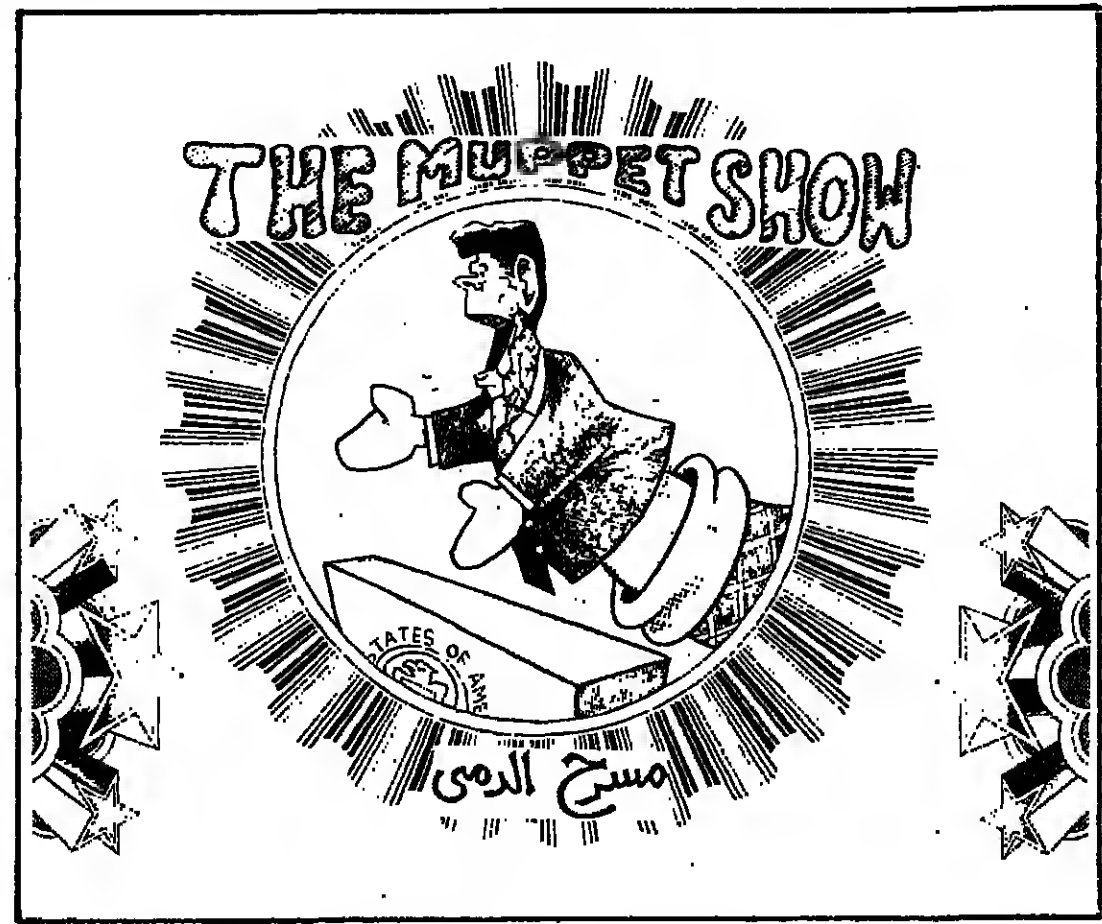
But Regan's depiction of Reagan as disengaged, disinterested and indecisive, while potentially more serious, was largely overlooked — despite the reinforcement it offered to similarly unflattering views of the president in recent books by former press secretary Larry Speakes and former deputy White House chief of staff Michael Deaver.

"Ronald Reagan... has been protected by the national mythology," said David Kaiser, a history professor at Carnegie Mellon University in a New York Times article last Friday, exploring the president's enduring popularity with the American public.

"Like adherents of some religious flock, Americans have stubbornly resisted the reality of the man we elected — in two landslide," he said.

But some critics say the astrology tale, and other anecdotes depicting Reagan as a largely ignorant and passive president compliant to his wife's wishes, may taint his standing in history because they reflect a broader shortcoming of distracted superpower leadership.

In his memoir, Regan wrote that in addition to foisting an astrologer upon the White House the first lady had created a "Sha-



dow Distaff Presidency," intervening to force out cabinet members and officials.

Regan's memoir was widely seen as the former chief of staff's revenge on Mrs. Reagan whom he holds responsible for his abrupt ouster from the White House in February 1987.

Speakes, in his book "Speaking Out," published last month, disclosed he had fabricated presidential quotes and passed them on to the press as Reagan's own.

Deaver's recent memoir, "Behind the Scenes," described

Reagan, 77, as innocent and unrealistic, with a habit of turning to the comics page when the newspaper arrived.

"I do not believe he could have survived politically, to the extent he has, without people protecting him," wrote Deaver, a close friend of the Reagans.

Two years ago former Reagan budget director David Stockman published a book painting the president as ignorant of economics, naively optimistic and oblivious to the huge deficits his tax cuts and military spending surge

would spawn.

But Secretary of State George Shultz, unable to avoid the controversy even in Europe where he was engaged in pre-summit negotiations with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, strongly defended his boss.

"My opinion is that... the Reagan presidency will be seen as a revolutionary presidency, perhaps more so than any presidency since FDR (Franklin Delano Roosevelt) because he has changed the agenda and in my opinion it's better," Shultz said.

Melanesian nationalism on rise one year after Fiji coup

By Francis Daniel
Reuters

SYDNEY — A military coup in Fiji and violence in the French territory of New Caledonia have triggered a surge of nationalism which could shatter political tranquility in the South Pacific.

The indigenous Melanesians have long been admired for their gentleness and leisurely approach to life.

But racial tension in both island groups has led to a spill over which threatens to pollute the whole region.

Diplomats and political leaders told Reuters that unless the situation was defused, it could lead to widespread instability in an area which they say is already a target for Soviet and Libyan activity.

A senior Fijian minister, who did not want to be named, told Reuters the coup led by Brigadier-General Sitiveni Rabuka on May 14, 1987 had helped arouse "latent nationalist desires of the indigenous people of the South Pacific."

He added: "These tendencies will surface more and more in the years to come. The South Pacific will become a politically volatile area and it will not subside until nationalist indigenous desires are fulfilled."

In the Solomon Islands, the government says it is reviewing its constitution to protect indigenous rights and restrict immigration.

Ethnic Chinese, mostly businessmen, are the main migrants and form 10 per cent of the 200,000 population.

A year after the coup in Fiji, the military is entrenched behind an interim civilian government committed to ensuring Melane-

sians remain in perpetual political control.

In New Caledonia, Melanesian Kanaks, demanding independence, have called a temporary halt to a violent anti-French campaign in which about 30 people have been killed.

Other South Pacific island states applauded the aims of the Fijian coup, condemned the French and declared full support for the Kanak cause, seeing it as a battle for the Melanesian birthright.

Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu formalised their Melanesian spearhead group in March and invited Fiji to join them in consolidating traditional cultural and economic links.

Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Pias Wingit told France Wednesday it should withdraw its troops from New Caledonia immediately to avoid a bloodbath.

None of the Melanesian island states has the strength to provide overt assistance to the Kanaks, but they have vowed to mount an international campaign to end French rule in New Caledonia.

Officials of the 14-member South Pacific Forum warned that France could not dismiss the current Kanak campaign and its harsh military response as purely an internal matter.

The Melanesian states were also more united after developments in Fiji, they said.

Rabuka, who kidnapped Fiji's first Indian-dominated government from parliament at gunpoint, has vowed to ensure indigenous people will always be masters in their own land.

He has said ethnic Indians, who dominate Fiji's economy,

will never again be allowed political power.

Initial dismay from other island states soon turned to applause as Rabuka, who is now army commander and home affairs minister, promised a return to parliamentary democracy within the two years under a new constitution enshrining ethnic Fijians' traditional rights.

Australia and New Zealand, among the strongest critics of the coup, have also resumed aid and diplomatic links with Suva, giving

the Rabuka regime some international credibility.

Fijian Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara says the island has a long way to go before restoring its shattered economy and re-establishing racial harmony, but the period of strife and turmoil is over.

Government officials in the region still warn that uncertainty in Fiji and New Caledonia increases the danger of outside interference and weakens regional security.

"The Kanaks, unable to get Western help, may turn to Libya," said a senior official in Solomon Islands.

A radical Kanak leader, Yann Celene Uregei, recently hailed Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi for giving "impetus and encouragement to collective revolution."

Vanuatu, which established formal ties with Libya in 1986, has called for increased assistance to the Kanaks. About a dozen members of the island's ruling

Vanuatu Party visited Tripoli last year.

The Soviet Union, offering fishing and other commercial cooperation agreements with small island states in the region, has so far kept out of the Fiji and New Caledonia problems.

South Pacific has traditionally been the preserve of Australia, New Zealand, Britain and the United States. But sweeping Melanesian nationalism could severely test Western influence in the region, diplomats say.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Congressman urges Awad release

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Democratic Congressman David E. Bonior introduced legislation Thursday calling on Israel to release Mubarak Awad, the Palestinian-American peace activist, and to allow him to continue his work on behalf of a non-violent solution to the problems in the Middle East. "Mubarak Awad's commitment to non-violence, his willingness to work for peaceful change in the Middle East strikes a positive chord with all people of conscience," Bonior stated. "Israel should be reaching out to people like Awad rather than seeking to silence them."

EC parliament condemns Turkey

STRASBOURG (R) — The European parliament Friday condemned the Turkish occupation of Northern Cyprus and said the European Community (EC) should press Turkey to withdraw its troops. The parliament said the occupation was a major stumbling block in improving relations with Turkey, which last year applied to join the 12-nation EC. It called on EC foreign ministers to put pressure on the Turkish government to draw up a precise timetable for the withdrawal of its troops. The issue last month forced a last-minute cancellation of talks between the EC and Turkey on improved economic ties after Greece insisted that the community should make a reference to Cyprus in their discussions. Turkey refused to take part in the talks, saying it would not accept a link between the Cyprus issue and its relations with the community.

Istanbul blast injures 10 people

ISTANBUL (AP) — A time-bomb exploded Thursday at a bus terminal in Istanbul, injuring 10 people, police said. Istanbul's police chief Unal Erkan told the AP that the bomb, planted in a garbage can at the Topkapi Trakya bus terminal, went off at 8:15 a.m. (0615 GMT). On April 28, two small blasts, which injured one woman and caused some damage in Istanbul, were claimed by the outlawed leftist groups Turkish Workers' and Peasants' Liberation Army and the Revolutionary Left.

Canadian clergyman in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — A Canadian clergyman arrived Friday to try to deliver a petition organised by a Christian human rights group to a Shi'ite Muslim religious leader asking him to intercede to gain freedom for foreign hostages. Ray Barnett, a representative of "Friends in the West," a Seattle-based organisation, arrived in the port of Jounieh at 7 a.m. (0500 GMT), a police spokesman said. In the United States, former hostage David Jacobsen said Wednesday the prayerful plea had been carried out of the United States this week and was expected to be delivered this weekend to Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah.

Sofaer took coins out of Israel

WASHINGTON (R) — A senior U.S. legal official who is an amateur coin collector took coins out of Israel illegally because he did not know an export licence was required, the State Department said Sunday. Judge Abraham Sofaer, the depart-

ment's legal adviser, has contacted legal counsel in Israel to make sure he was in full compliance with the country's law, spokesman Charles Redman told reporters. A source at Israel's department of antiquities said the department was negotiating with Sofaer for the return of archaeological artifacts which he bought in Israel. "Judge Sofaer told us he purchased the artifacts from licensed dealers but would return them if required since he did not seek permission for their export," the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told Reuters.

Bomb kills two in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Two men were killed when a bomb they were planning to plant on a railroad line in southwestern Iran exploded prematurely, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported Thursday. The official Iranian agency said a third man fled the area near the Arak-Ahvaz railroad line after the bomb exploded May 10. It called the would-be bombers "Iraqi agents."

Israeli protest paper closure

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli leftists published a newspaper Thursday to protest against the government closure of a Hebrew-Arabic publication that carried detailed reports of Israeli mistreatment of Palestinians. An editorial in the newspaper Shomer Hanitzotz (the Guardian of the Spark) said that the ban on Derech Hanitzotz (the Path of the Spark) was "another stage in the war of information that the government is waging against a Palestinian uprising." The new paper was filled with Hebrew-language articles on freedom of information and analyses of the uprising. The Israeli order to close Derech Hanitzotz in February said that the paper had ties with the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). Six members of the banned newspaper were detained over the past month. Its publisher Asaf Adiv, arrested Tuesday, was listed on the editorial board of the new paper. "We want to put the government's closure of the newspaper in the proper context," said Adi Ofir, a member of the leftist group 21st year that financed the publication. "Whoever closes a newspaper because of alleged suspicions is liable to foster suspicions on another newspaper tomorrow in order to close it," he said. Ofir said there were no immediate plans to continue publishing Shomer Hanitzotz.

Hamadi trial set for July 5

FRANKFURT (AP) — The trial of Mohammad Ali Hamadi, charged with murder and air piracy in the 1985 TWA hijacking, is expected to begin July 5, a Frankfurt court spokesman said Friday. Spokesman Falk Thomas said the Frankfurt trial was expected to last at least two months. Hamadi, a Lebanese, was arrested at Frankfurt airport Jan. 13, 1987, carrying liquid explosives and false documents. He was formally charged Feb. 8 with air piracy, murder, illegal possession of explosives and carrying a false passport. The air piracy and murder charges are in connection with the June 14, 1985 hijacking of a TWA jetliner to Beirut in which a U.S. navy diver was shot to death. Thirty-nine Americans were held captive for 17 days in the ordeal that began on a flight from Athens to Rome and ended in Beirut.

Restoration of Cairo-Algiers formal ties said imminent

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt expects to resume diplomatic relations next week with Algeria, one of Cairo's harshest critics for its 1979 treaty with Israel, according to a leading state-owned publication.

The rapprochement would end a rupture of more than nine years and leave only Libya and Syria among original hard-line radicals shunning Egypt because of its Israeli connections. Lebanon, in Syria's shadow, also has not returned an ambassador to Cairo.

Al Mussawar, a weekly known to be close to the top echelons of government, said Thursday Egypt's reconciliation with Algeria was expected to be announced next Wednesday in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa.

A joint statement is expected to be distributed there after a meeting between the two presidents, Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Abdelaziz Bouteflique of Algeria. Al Mussawar said. They will be in Ethiopia for a pan-African summit conference marking the silver jubilee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), headquartered in Addis Ababa.

Al Mussawar said Osama Al-Baz, Mubarak's top political aide, would visit Algeria Saturday and Sunday to prepare for the Benjedid-Mubarak summit. "Agreement has been reached on the wording of the joint statement," it added.

If the diplomatic reconciliation occurs as forecast, Algeria will be the 12th member of the Arab League to restore ties with Egypt since the Arab summit last November in Amman. A summit resolution absolved members of any collective obligation to maintain a league-imposed break with Egypt that followed its 1979 treaty with Israel.

Other members of the Arab League, with the exception of Sudan, Somalia and Oman, broke relations after the treaty signing in March 1979. Jordan restored ties in 1984, Djibouti two years later.

Since the Amman summit, all the rest have restored relations except Algeria, Libya, Syria and Lebanon.

U.N. report highlights stalemate in W. Sahara

RABAT (R) — An unpublished United Nations report, prepared before this week's restoration of diplomatic ties between Morocco and Algeria, shows wide disparities in their views about the Western Sahara which is at the root of their quarrel.

Diplomats consider the restoration of official ties a major step towards peace in the disputed former Spanish colony, where a 12-year war has settled into military stalemate and political deadlock.

The 100-page U.N. report, a sort of peacemaker's guide to the war, was prepared to help U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in his efforts to resolve the conflict.

The war pits Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas against the Moroccan forces that control most of the Western Sahara.

Polisario and Morocco agree the future of the territory should be settled by a referendum, but after vast changes since Spain relinquished control in 1976, they differ widely on who should be allowed to take part and on the

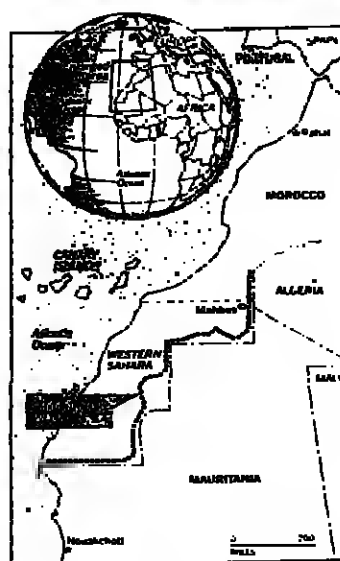
strategy "consists of establishing a continuous and relatively impenetrable defensive perimeter" while Polisario has adopted "a conscious strategy of attrition... to compel the Moroccans to maintain strong forces at a high state of alert."

Military experts with the U.N. mission noted that the guerrillas were "equipped with brand-new and sophisticated weapons" and that "relatively few items of captured Moroccan equipment were in use."

The mission found there were wide disparities in estimates of the population which was put at about 74,000 by a Spanish census in 1974.

According to Polisario, the population now is 207,000 of whom 150,000 are at four refugee camps in Algeria, and 17,000 in "liberated territories."

A Moroccan census in 1982 gave a population of 163,878. The report noted that "such an abnormal increase (an annual growth of approximately seven per cent)



was explained by population movements from the north since 1976."

The report did not mention Polisario demands that Moroccan settlers, officials and troops must all be withdrawn before a referendum.

It said both sides agreed the criterion of who should vote should be proof that the voter is a member of a known Saharan tribe, but noted that tribes in the area overlap political frontiers.

Iranian clergymen deny urging peace with Iraq

NICOSIA (R) — Two senior Iranian clergymen have denied a Western news report that they had called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war. Tehran Radio said.

The radio said Thursday the denials were made by the offices of Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Golpayegani and Ayatollah Shabbuddin Marashi Najafi in the holy city of Qom.

The British daily Independent reported Monday that the two grand ayatollahs had written an open letter to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini asking for an end to the war and talks with other Muslim countries to restore Iran's position in the Islamic World.

The two ayatollahs, in their 80s, are known for their conservative views on economic and social affairs. They rarely issue political statements, but their pronouncements carry weight because of their rank in the Shi'ite clerical hierarchy.

There is opposition to the 7½-year-old war among Iranian clerics on religious and political grounds, but Khomeini's adamant support for pursuing the

war as a sacred duty greatly narrows the scope of public debate on merits of the war.

Ayatollah Ahmad Azari Qomi, himself a conservative member of parliament, wrote in Resalat newspaper last January:

"Certain (Islamic) scholars and professors of our time should know that indifference to sacred defence and crying out for peace... puts them in the ranks of Saad, Abdallah and Osama (figures in the dawn of Islam punished for not going to war)."

Tehran radio said Golpayegani's office said the ayatollah "denied the rumours and remarks attributed to him and prayed for victory of Islamic combatants."

"These rumours are pure fabrication and I have never held such views," the radio quoted Marashi Najafi as saying.

A similar denial was issued by the Society of Qom Theological Professors, a conservative grouping of Muslim clergymen headed by Golpayegani.

The society said in a statement, quoted by the Iranian news agency IRNA, that reports of it advocating negotiations with Iraq were pipe dreams cooked up by Western powers.

Iran plans talks with France on relations

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian and French officials will meet soon to discuss resumption of diplomatic ties after a 10-month break, according to Iran's Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi.

Mousavi hoped the two countries would be able "to lay a good foundation for good mutual relations," the Iranian news agency IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, reported Thursday.

France's new Socialist Prime Minister Michel Rocard said Wednesday his government would continue on the course set by its predecessor and reestablish ties with Tehran.

Mousavi gave no specific time for the meeting or details of who would take part in the talks.

Rocard said former Prime Minister Jacques Chirac had promised to resume diplomatic relations with Tehran in exchange for Iran's help in freeing the last three French hostages in Lebanon. Mousavi made no reference to the French hostages, freed in Beirut two weeks ago.

France severed diplomatic ties with Tehran last July when Vahid Gerdji, a translator at the Iranian embassy in Paris, refused to be

questioned in court about a series of bombings in the French capital in 1986.

Relations between the two countries had soured before over France's financial and military backing of Iraq.

Iran set three conditions for normalisation of ties — repayment of a billion-dollar loan made in the mid-1970s, curbing the activities of exiled opponents of the Iranian government in France and an end to French weapons sales to Iraq.

Since Chirac took office in March 1986, several leaders of the Iranian opposition group Mujaheddin-e-Khalq were expelled from France and two-thirds of the disputed loan was repaid.

But French officials have said they would not change their policy towards Iraq to please Iran.

In the same period, 10 French nationals held by pro-Iranian militant groups in Lebanon were released.

Iranian officials singled out the socialists as the group responsible for France's tilt towards Iraq and the deterioration of Tehran-Paris ties.

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KING FAISAL AIR
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AVIONICS INSTRUCTOR

Applicants should have gained a Master's degree, preferably in Electrical Engineering or Electronics. They must also have two years' experience of teaching Avionics and a year's practical experience in aircraft electrical and electronic systems.

NAVIGATION INSTRUCTOR

Applicants should have gained a University degree, preferably M.Sc. They should also have four years' experience as Fast Jet Navigators and two years' experience of teaching at a military training unit.

METEOROLOGY INSTRUCTOR

Ideally applicants should have M.Sc. in Meteorology, or M.Sc. in Physics plus two years' experience as a Meteorologist. Candidates must also have at least two years' teaching experience.

APPLICANTS FOR ALL OF THESE VACANCIES MUST BE BELOW THE AGE OF 50 YEARS.

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BRITISH AEROSPACE
P.O. BOX 1732
RIYADH 11441
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Japan perceives pivotal Jordanian role

"But because of the general awareness of the need to make

"We are aware that the Gulf war is a serious conflict and we have tried to create the proper atmosphere and circumstances

Armouti, who was a member



Possibilities for utilising preferential treatment given to Jordan by the Council of Arab Economic Unity, the European Community and the U.S. were also discussed.

Jordanian and Indian officials sign air transport agreement (Petra photo)

An Indian team to the talks arrived here Tuesday and immediately embarked on talks with the Civil Aviation Authority officials to promote air transport

In February last year, an Indian civil aviation delegation visited Amman and held talks with RJ officials on operating a direct air link between India and Jordan. The visit resulted in the signing of a tentative memorandum of understanding to bolster bilateral cooperation in air transport.

Following is the second and final part of the economic review reprinted from the 1987 annual report of Jordan's Industrial Development Bank. Part 1 appeared in Thursday's issue.

Agriculture

Another 114 thousand dunums in the same area were rented in 1986 and production is expected

The Agricultural Credit Corporation approved during the year 2,682 loans totalling JD 5.14 million for the purchase of agricultural inputs and development of arid and irrigated land. The Cooperative Bank extended 1,134 loans totalling JD 1.8 mil-

Imports decreased during the first ten months of 1987 to JD 703.2 million or by 11.12 per cent. Consequently, the balance of payments showed a deficit of JD 511.5 million during the first ten months of 1987 compared to JD 520.5 million deficit during the corresponding period of 1986.

Outstanding credit facilities of commercial banks extended to all sectors of the economy increased to JD 1,513,033 million or by 8.4 per cent over 1986. Credit to industry, mining and tourism decreased by 2.1 per cent compared to 1986.

Monetary development

The Central Bank of Jordan continued to direct monetary policy with the aim of maintaining monetary stability, facilitating general economic activities and encouraging investment in development projects. In this respect several measures were taken, such as reduction of reserve ratio on demand deposits from nine per cent to five per cent. Such reduction was applicable on that part of commercial reserves equivalent to bank's investment in treasury bills.

The Central Bank of Jordan also allowed commercial banks to reduce investment from 15 per cent to nine per cent of their paid up capital and reserves in shares of local shareholding companies with the aim of increasing liquidity of commercial banks.

To encourage export financing, the central bank adjusted its general terms of discount provided to commercial banks for export purposes to include all local companies.

FOR RENT

A furnished semi-villa: Two bedrooms, telephone, with all facilities.

Location: Beside Amra Hotel

For more information, please call tel.: 815302

Cooperative 1,134 loans totalling JD 1.8 million to 72 cooperative societies for purchasing agricultural inputs.

Building and construction

The Housing Corporation completed during 1987 three housing projects of 212 housing units at Um Keis in the northern region and Hesha Al Beida and Badul in Petra with a total area of 14.5 thousand square metres and at a total cost of JD 1.9 million.

During 1987, the Housing Bank approved 2,751 loans totalling JD 25.3 million for the construction of 3,698 housing units. Another JD 54.4 million were extended for housing and development projects.

Activities in Aqaba

During 1987, work commenced on the execution of several projects in the port to fulfill increasing requirements of storage areas and services. Among these projects were the construction of bangers for chemicals and storage areas, coast telecommunication station... etc. at a total cost of JD 0.93 million. Work is progressing on the construction of a passenger terminal at a total cost of JD 1.5 million.

Number of ships docking at Aqaba port amounted to 2,555 ships and tonnage, including phosphate fertilizers and potash increased from 16.8 million tons

corresponding period of 1986.

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Cinema

PLAZA


Tel: 677420

1) Three Men And a Baby

2) Action Jackson

3) Who's That Girl

Performances: 8.30, 10.00, 8.30, 10.30

A black and white movie poster for the film 'Who's That Girl'. It features a woman, Faye Dunaway, in a dynamic pose, possibly dancing or running, with her arms outstretched. The background is dark and textured. The title 'WHO'S THAT GIRL' is visible at the top of the poster.

هكذا من الأصل

1988 AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL FINAL STANDINGS

T-BALL

	WON	LOST
1. Tom & Jerry	6	0
2. Mr. Chips	4	2
3. Danish Dairy	2	4
4. Wang	0	6

COACH PITCH

1. NECC	5	0
2. Jordan Express	4	1
3. Nash/EBB	3	2
4. Al-Ahlyah	2	3
5. GEMT	1	4
6. Arab Bank	0	5

KID PITCH

1. Samar	5	1
2. Ericsson	4	2
3. JWM	3	2
4. Marriott	3	2
5. DHL	1	4
6. Seiko	0	5

SOFTBALL

1. Westinghouse	5	1
2. Perelli	4	3
3. Cairo Amman	3	4
4. Volvo	1	5



Mr. Chips (second place) — T-Ball



NECC (first place) — Coach Pitch



Jordan Express (second place) — Coach Pitch



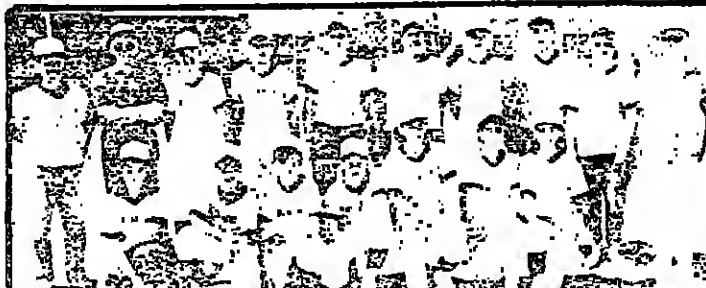
Samar (first place) — Kid Pitch



Ericsson (second place) — Kid Pitch



Westinghouse (first place) — Softball



Perelli (second place) — Softball



Tom and Jerry (first place) — T-Ball

NBA ROUNDUP

Mavericks win series

DALLAS (AP) — Rolando Blackman scored nine straight points in the fourth period Thursday night to lead the Dallas Mavericks into their first National Basketball Association (NBA) Western Conference Championship series with a 108-95 victory over the Denver Nuggets.

Dallas, which beat the Nuggets four games to two in their best-of-seven series, will play the winner of the Utah-Los Angeles Lakers series.

Blackman and Sam Perkins each had 23 points for the Mavericks, who had never before been past game 6 in the Western Conference semifinals.

Alex English led the crippled Nuggets with 34 points. Denver played its third straight game without Lafayette Lever and Jay Vincent, both out with injuries.

Jazz 108, Lakers 80

In Salt Lake City, Karl Malone scored 27 points and Bobby Hansen added 25 as the Utah Jazz defeated the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers 108-80 Thursday night and sent their NBA second-round playoff series into a decisive seventh game.

The two teams will return to the forum in Inglewood, California, for game 7 Saturday afternoon, where the Jazz already have won once this series.

The Jazz never trailed after Malone gave them an 8-7 lead with 8:17 left in the first quarter.

Magic Johnson scored only 10 points, all coming in the first half.

Detroit beat Chicago 102-95

In New York, Detroit advanced to the Eastern Conference final Wednesday night with a 102-95 NBA victory over Chicago, eliminating the Bulls. Meanwhile, Boston teetered on the edge of elimination with its 112-104 loss to Atlanta in its semifinal series.

The Pistons' Bill Laimbeer scored 13 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter to eliminate the Bulls in a 4-1 series.

Detroit's defence, which held Chicago's Michael Jordan to 23 and 24 points in the third and fourth games of the series, held Jordan to 25 points — just nine in the second half — in game 5.

Isiah Thomas scored 25 points for Detroit, 15 in the first half, and Adrian Dantley scored 18 of his 22 points in the first half.

Detroit led 73-71 at the start of the final period. But Sam Vincent and Charles Oakley scored four points each in a Chicago run that gave the Bulls their last lead, 80-77 with 9:03 remaining.

NHL RESULTS

NEW YORK (R) — Results of best-of-seven Stanley Cup playoff games Wednesday:

Stanley Cup Finals

Edmonton Oilers 2 Boston Bruins 1
(Oilers lead series 1-0)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ6 ♥A2 ♦72 ♣AK873
What is your opening bid?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A93 ♥KQ8 ♦KQ7 ♣652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♥KJ63 ♦76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold:
♠A107 ♥KQ92 ♦K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠7 ♥A962 ♦K10653 ♣85
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠EQJ1053 ♥6 ♦8 ♣Q9852
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♥ 1 ♠ 4 ♥ Dbl
Pass ?
What action do you take?

Expelled player kills referee

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — A soccer referee has died in a hospital from injuries suffered when a player he had ordered off the field threw a rock and hit him in the head, police said Thursday. Showman Tsuro was refereeing a division II league game between Cranborne Bullets and Arcurus at Arcurus Mine May 8 when he sent the player off the pitch for foul play. The expelled player picked up a rock and flung it at the referee, knocking him unconscious, police said. Tsuro died in a Harare hospital Tuesday. The match was cancelled when the referee was hit. The errant player may be charged with homicide, police sources said.

Goalkeeper on target as Colombia beat Finland

HELSINKI (R) — Colombia continued their European soccer tour with a 3-1 victory over Finland Thursday in a friendly international marked by a second half penalty goal from goalkeeper Rene Higuita. The Colombians, who drew 0-0 against Scotland in the Rous Cup in Glasgow Tuesday, took the lead against the run of play through Arango in the 19th minute. Finland drew level after 38 when Jari Rantanen, who plays for English second division club Leicester City, headed a fine equaliser. But Colombia boosted their confidence before next week's encounter with England at Wembley with two goals in the second half through Higuita, from a 47th minute penalty.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

English soccer crowds increasing

LONDON (AP) — Soccer attendances in England rose last season for the second year running, according to figures released Thursday. A reduction in the number of first division teams from 22 to 21 meant that the figure for the top flight was slightly down, but the underlying trend was upwards, said Graham Kelly, secretary of the English Football League. The total number of fans who watched the matches in the four division of the league was 17,960,322, an increase of 3.2 per cent over the previous season. That represented an average 8,847 for each match. The average attendance for first division games was 19,252.

Tardelli finishes contract with Swiss club

ST. GALLEN, Switzerland (R) — Midfielder Marco Tardelli, who helped Italy to win the 1982 World Cup, has had his contract with Swiss first division side St. Gallen terminated by mutual agreement with a year still to run. St. Gallen trainer Marcus Frei said Thursday that this evening's league game against Lucerne would be the Italian's last appearance for the club. Tardelli, 33, who joined St. Gallen last September from Internazionale Milan for around \$140,000, spent most of the season on the substitutes' bench due to injuries. He was capped 85 times by Italy. His goal in the 1982 World Cup final in Madrid helped defeat West Germany 3-1.

Paralysed U.S. gymnast to return home

TOKYO (AP) — Julissa Gomez, a 15-year-old U.S. gymnast paralysed in an accident earlier this month, will be flown back to the United States Saturday, a spokesman for the Japan Gymnastics Association said. Gomez, of Blue Springs, Missouri, will be flown back to the United States on a U.S. military plane scheduled to depart from Yokota Air Base Saturday afternoon. The plane will make stopovers in Honolulu and Sacramento, where Gomez will then be transferred to a flight to Houston, JGA spokesman Kyoji Tsukaichi said. He said two doctors from the United States arrived in Tokyo early Friday to make final preparations for the flight and consult with Japanese doctors who have been treating Julissa at the emergency centre of the Tokyo University Hospital. The girl's parents, Ramiro and Otilia, who arrived in Tokyo two days after the accident, will accompany Julissa on the flight home.

Nepalese king dissolves sports council

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — King Birendra dissolved the National Sports Council following a government commission report saying the group had been responsible for failing to control a stadium stampede in March which claimed more than 70 lives, a statement from the royal palace said Friday.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Today I drank 42 cups of coffee. I think I need a vacation."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HOVUC
RAWFE
METHEL
FRINEY



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A O O O O O TO O O O O O O (Answers Monday)
Yesterday's Jumbles: LIMBO HARRY ADJOIN DRIVE
Answer: If you can't face the music, you'll never get to do this—LEAD THE BAND

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flagler

ACROSS

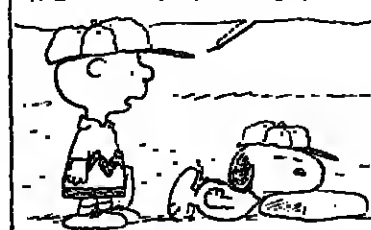
- Breathes hard
- Card game
- Church part
- Game
- Wide-awake
- Exhortation
- Optimistic
- Blockade
- Lacrosse
- Explosive
- Road sign
- Arctic explorer
- Parrot
- Part of at
- Candidate for graduation
- Colt
- Recede
- Social class
- Burning
- Poor grade
- Fit to
- Plant fiber
- Golf call
- Grassland
- Anatomical
- 42 TV part
- 43 Hill dweller
- 44 Bidding
- 45 Attractive
- 46 Have
- 47 Membership
- 48 Happy song
- 49 Certain
- 50 Freshman
- 51 Wander
- 52 CIA
- 53 predecessor
- 54 Fr. composer
- 55 Live's cousin
- 56 Lulu dance
- 57 Numerical
- 58 Like some
- 59 Church figure
- 60 Audition
- 61 Passageway
- 62 Learn-to
- 63 Frane
- 64 Feb. river
- 65 WWII craft
- 66 Conspiracy
- 67 Altonson u.g.
- 68 City on the
- 69 Oka
- 64 Plum
- 65 Hourglass
- 66 contents
- 67 She —
- 68 am
- 69 One prof.
- 70 Possessive

DOWN

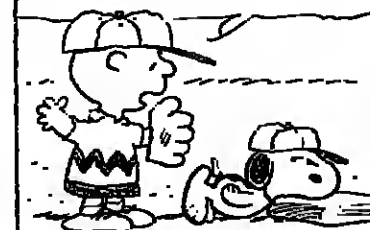
- Sweet wine
- Knowledgeable about
- Concorde sign
- 4 —by-night
- 5 Clergyman
- 6 Salmagundi
- 7 Lawn sign
- 8 Work unit
- 9 Map abbr.
- 10 Following
- 11 China shop sign
- 12 Eur. basin
- 13 Eagle's nest
- 14 Clog
- 15 Soccer great
- 16 Quote
- 17 Linen
- 18 Bunny
- 19 Li — Milan
- 20 Corroded
- 21 Basque lid
- 22 Wallace or
- 23 High
- 24 Colo. resort
- 25 Shakespearean heavy
- 26 Sticks
- 27 Impersonation

Peanuts

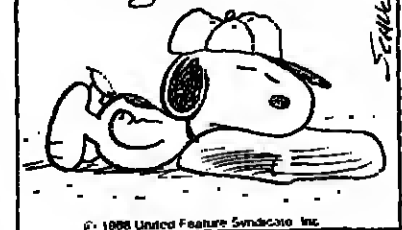
I HATE TO SAY ANYTHING, BUT SECOND BASE WAS NOT MEANT TO BE A PILLOW!



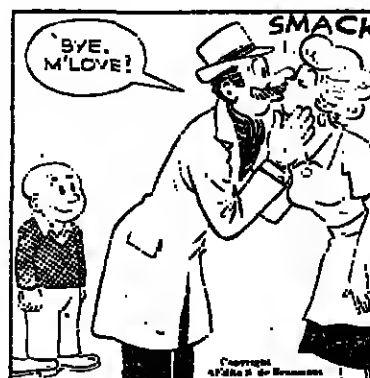
IF SOMEBODY HITS A TRIPLE, THEY'RE GOING TO STEP RIGHT ON YOUR HEAD..



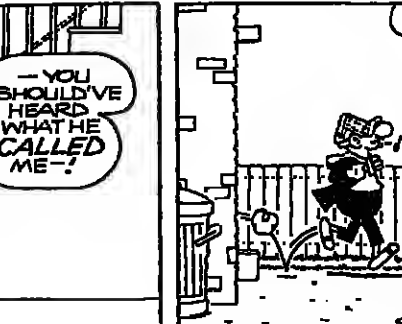
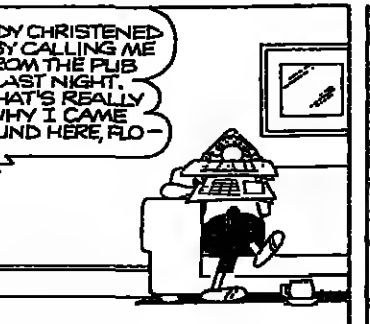
KEEP THE BALL LOW



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



S. Korean students attack U.S. embassy

SEOUL (Agencies) — Radical students hurled six homemade bombs into the U.S. embassy and injured a police officer Friday as anti-government protesters fought riot police for a fourth day.

Students staged demonstrations and marches at colleges in Seoul and other cities to demand the overthrow of President Roh Tae-woo and removal of U.S. troops. Many of the protests were peaceful, but some turned into battles with police in green combat fatigues and black-visored helmets.

"Down with the military dictatorship," the protesters shouted. "Drive out the Yankee imperialists."

Students hurling firebombs and rocks clashed with police in battles around at least three colleges in Seoul and one school in the southern city of Kwangju. Police fired volleys of tear-gas and formed walls of shields to stop protesters from marching into the streets.

Eight students were arrested in Suwon, south of Seoul, when they stormed an office of the governing Democratic Justice Party with firebombs and sticks. Riot police overpowered the attackers.

sonnel were hurt. Police said the bombs were crude chemical explosives packed in soft drink cans.

Radical groups called for a march in Seoul Saturday to denounce the Roh government. Opposition groups also called for peaceful protests.

National police remained on nationwide alert. Riot police squads stood guard at key locations in Seoul or waited out of sight in side streets.

Protesters have denounced the United States in demonstrations this week, charging that Washington supports military dictatorship in South Korea. Radical leaders want the 40,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea expelled and an end to Seoul's alliance with Washington.

Protesters broke windows and hurled firebombs Thursday at the Seoul office of the U.S. Information Service. The centre was seized by radicals in February when it exploded several bombs that caused minor damage.

Radical groups reject broad democratic reforms made by the Roh government since it took power in February. The radicals contend the nation is not a democracy and demand a nationwide revolt.

Roh is distrusted by many Koreans because of the role he played in the authoritarian government of former President Chun Doo-hwan, who stepped down in February. Roh narrowly won presidential elections in December over divided opposition candidates.

Three days of major clashes hit Seoul and other cities this week as thousands of students and dissidents hurled firebombs and rocks hatted riot police in the streets.

Police used volleys of tear-gas to break up the worst political violence since nationwide riots last summer.

The protests were called to mark the May 18 anniversary of a 1980 anti-government uprising in the southern city of Kwangju.

Some opposition groups contend Roh, a top general, played a leading role in the bloody suppression of the Kwangju uprising in which at least 191 people were killed. Radicals demand that Roh be punished for the incident.

Black S. African leader visits Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A black South African leader arrived in Israel Friday, saying he wanted to witness for himself the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Nthato Motlana, president of the Soweto Civic Association, came as a guest of the Israeli foreign ministry and labour federation and will meet Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

He is scheduled to meet Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and President Chaim Herzog during his five-day visit.

Referring to the five-month Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, Motlana said on arrival:

"I've come to see the situation on the spot, to see whether the interpretation we make in South Africa of events now happening in this area are in fact valid."

"Black South Africans have always identified with the Arabs as a Third World nation in the anti-colonial struggle with the Arabs," he added.

Motlana said he was unhappy about relations between Israel and the apartheid South African government, "particularly in matters of security and armaments," he said.

Israeli radio reported the South African embassy tried to block the visit by Motlana.

But on Friday, South African embassy press officer Tom Markram said the embassy had not put on pressure to prevent Motlana's visit and in fact had "no knowledge" of the trip.

Motlana fought for more than 25 years before he was granted a passport by South African officials in 1986. During that time, he was forced to turn down dozens of invitations to travel and speak abroad.

Lehder convicted

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (AP) — Carlos Lehder Rivas, a reputed leader of Colombia's violent Medellín drug cartel, was found guilty Thursday of running a smuggling operation that brought tons of cocaine into the United States.

The jury began its deliberations Friday and deliberated over seven days before returning a verdict just after 11 a.m. (1500 GMT) Thursday.

Lehder, 38, and codefendant Jack Carlton Reed, 57, were charged with conspiring to smuggle 2.5 tonnes of cocaine into the United States from Colombia via the Bahamas from 1978 to 1980.

Lehder was found guilty on all counts: conspiracy, two counts of importation of cocaine, seven counts of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute and one charge of engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise.

He looked down, then stared straight ahead as the court clerk read the verdicts. He now faces life plus 150 years in prison and up to \$350,000 in fines and forfeiture of his assets in the Bahamas.

Reed, a resident of California, was convicted of a single conspiracy count and faces up to 15 years in prison and \$25,000 in fines.

Jurors' names have not been revealed for security reasons, and U.S. Judge Howell W. Melton had the foreman sign the verdict form only with his number.

Prosecutors had called Lehder the biggest foreign drug smuggler ever brought to trial in the United States and said he was the "Henry Ford of drug trafficking," pioneering mass shipments of cocaine by air from Colombia to the United States.

On Wednesday, the jury had reviewed a videotape in which Lehder had called drugs a "revolutionary" weapon against North American imperialism.

Foreigners blamed for Italian blasts

BOLZANO, Italy (AP) — Investigators Thursday blamed recent bombings in the northern Alto Adige region on neo-Nazi groups based in West Germany and Austria. "The bombs were probably placed by German-speaking extremists inspired by neo-Nazi groups based in Bavaria and the North Tyrol," said Renato Compagnone, chief of Bolzano's squad that handles politically linked crimes. He did not say what information led him to that conclusion.

Alto Adige, also known as South Tyrol, borders Austria and has many German-speaking residents. North Tyrol refers to an Austrian region along the border. In the provincial capital of Bolzano Tuesday, bombs went off outside two buildings housing Italian-speaking families and outside the local offices of the Italian state-run television RAI and the Italian telephone company SIP. There were no injuries.

Tibetans stage clemency rally

DHARAMSALA, India (AP) — About 400 people led by Tibetan monks marched Friday through the streets of Dharamsala to appeal to China to spare four Tibetans arrested in the death of a Chinese policeman. The policeman died during protests in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa in March. Dharamsala, in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, is the home of the Dalai Lama, the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, and many of his followers. Tibetan shops and businesses were closed Friday as part of the protest. Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, reported in April that four men were arrested April 14 in connection with the March 5 death of the policeman. As many as 24 people died in clashes that day in Lhasa. The Dalai Lama Thursday issued a statement saying there were reports that the four Tibetans would be executed and urged that they be spared. The men were identified as Lobsang Tenzin, a student of Tibet university at Lhasa, Tsering Dhoondup, a monk, Gyaltsen Chopel, a businessman and Sonam Wangdue, a carpenter. Friday's demonstration was organised by the Dharamsala Tibetan Freedom Movement, a lobby group. It said appeals were sent to the prime ministers of India and China. China invaded Tibet in 1959. The Dalai Lama and about 100,000 of his followers fled to India that year after an abortive Tibetan uprising.

Japanese hijackers deny Red Army link

TOKYO (AP) — A group of Japanese hijackers who commandeered a jetliner to North Korea in 1970 say they have no links to the extremist Japanese Red Army, according to a message from the group sent to the Kyodo news service. The hijackers wish to return to Japan "to fight for Japan and the Japanese people," the group said Wednesday in a text message and telephone conversation with Kyodo. The message, published Thursday, was in response to a list of questions sent to the hijackers, who have remained in North Korea since they forced a Japan Airlines jet to fly to the Communist country 18 years ago. "Everyone knows we love our mother country and want to return to contribute to our mother country," the message said. "Our primary desire is to realise the dreams of the Japanese people so that they may live happy lives." In a telephone conversation the same evening, Takahiro Konishi, the hijackers' second-in-command, told Kyodo the group had "absolutely no" connections to the Red Army or suspected Red Army extremists. It was the first time the group had disclaimed any links to the Red Army, Kyodo said. The long-dormant Red Army carried out a number of attacks in the

'Philippine bases need \$2.5 billion'

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. negotiators should agree to seek \$2.5 billion over five years to keep military bases in the Philippines on the condition that President Corason Aquino move to allow the bases to stay beyond 1991, says a report Friday from a conservative think tank.

The report by Heritage Foundation policy analyst Richard D. Fisher also advocates the sale of modern jet fighters and naval warships to the Philippine military and a review of "the entire range of U.S. actions to keep Manila from expelling U.S. forces."

A review of the bases agreement which lapses in 1991 is under way in Manila, with compensation for the bases a major issue.

Neither side in the talks has indicated how much might be asked for or paid. But suggestions by Philippine officials have ranged to more than \$1 billion a year over the current \$180 million in annual aid attached to U.S. use of Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base during the expiring five-year period.

Actual military aid to the Philippines during the five years will total about \$1.7 billion, says Fisher in his report. "A strategy for keeping the U.S. bases in the Philippines."

The Heritage Foundation is a privately funded think tank which generally espouses conservative views, often paralleling those of President Ronald Reagan's administration.

Aid tied to the bases is one of three major financial packages being considered for the financially troubled Philippines, which

is more than \$28 billion in debt. The administration, according to sources, is preparing to back a multinational effort to collect \$10 billion over five years in aid, trade concessions and debt relief. It has also asked Congress to appropriate \$257 million in aid for fiscal 1989, down \$90 million from what Congress appropriated last year.

U.S. officials have suggested all the aid might be tied together, but Aquino has said she supports the multinational aid idea only if it is now linked to what the Philippines views as rent for the U.S. bases.

Fisher, in his analysis, calls the U.S. military facilities in the Philippines the "American Gibraltar in Southeast Asia," saying that if the United States abandons them, the Soviet Union will move in.

Fisher criticises Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who lived in U.S. exile during eight years of martial law under ex-President Ferdinand E. Marcos. The report describes Manglapus as "a staunch nationalist apparently obsessed with the U.S. colonial past."

"The Heritage Foundation analyst also criticises Aquino for not taking a stand on the bases. She has said only that she is keeping her options open until the current agreement is renegotiated, sometime before 1991."

Her vagueness tends to strengthen the hand" of Manglapus, the report says.

A pro-bases view is being expressed by Philippine Defence Minister Fidel V. Ramos, who was in New York Friday after five days of meetings in Washington.

Sri Lankan party official shot dead

COLOMBO (R) — Suspected Marxist gunmen shot dead a senior official of Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene's United National Party Friday, police said.

Police said they believed the Sinhalese Marxist group Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP; People's Liberation Front) was responsible for the murder of Nandana Fernando, secretary-general of the ruling party.

Police said two men emerged from a side road in the Wellawatte area of Colombo and opened fire with automatic rifles as Fernando's car headed along a highway to his office.

Security guards travelling in another car behind Fernando returned fire before the gunmen and a third man sped away on a motorcycle through light early morning traffic.

Friday's incident came 10 days after Jayewardene lifted a five-year-old proscription on the JVP, a group of youths from the majority Sinhalese community who are opposed to last year's Indian-Sri Lankan accord to stop a separatist war by minority Tamils.

The ban was lifted under a purported agreement with the JVP worked out by intermediaries. JVP leaders disowned this.

The government hoped that by lifting the proscription it would get the JVP to give up violence and join the democratic process.

The group instead called last week for parliament's dissolution and listed 13 demands it said should be granted to show government sincerity.

The JVP has claimed that last year it killed about 260 people who either supported the pact with India or were UNP members or supporters.

The accord is at present enforced by 70,000 Indian soldiers in northern and eastern provinces.

Parliament Thursday extended for a further month a five-year-old state of emergency on the island to contain violence by the JVP and Tamil rebels.

Indian Defence Minister K.C. Pant is due to arrive later this month to discuss details of a phased withdrawal of Indian soldiers.

A cabinet minister said Thursday the government would still hold provincial council elections despite violence by the Marxist rebels and Tamil guerrillas.

"We will go ahead with elections in the north, east and south, despite peripheral violence," Lands Minister Gamini Disanayake told parliament.

Damage claim over Madonna cancellation

TOKYO (AP) — Tokyo district court has dismissed a suit filed by a 48-year-old man who demanded \$73 for mental damages he claimed he suffered from a concert by Madonna was cancelled due to bad weather, a court official said Friday. In the suit, filed against the concert tour sponsor, Tokyo Broadcasting System, office worker Kazumari Igarashi demanded that Madonna return for a make-up concert, according to the official who spoke on condition he not be identified.

Madonna's Tokyo debut performance, one of the five concerts scheduled, was cancelled June 20, 1987, because of rain and wind. The court ruled the suit "inappropriate" because a make-up concert is impossible without Madonna's cooperation, the official said.

Hopes of pardon drive French drivers wild

PARIS (R) — Anarchy reigns on the streets of Paris never signs that re-elected French President Francois Mitterrand will stick to tradition and announce an amnesty for traffic offences. Picturesque squares are clogged with illegally parked cars, traffic inches along the boulevards to a chorus of car horns and the sight of gesticulating Frenchmen arguing over their crasped vehicles is a cliché that turns out to be true. "The situation is getting totally out of control," Francois Gentil, director of the French Road Safety Council, told French radio Tuesday. "People are driving any way they like and it's even worse this time round because the amnesty is being delayed by the impending general elections." This means a pardon, originally expected in May, might have to wait until June or July.

Iranian gum may cause sterility

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti newspaper claimed Wednesday that an Iran-made chewing gum, currently marketed in Gulf Arab markets, causes sterility in both men and women. The newspaper Al Rai Al Aam, in a Riyadh-dated dispatch, said that Saudi Arabian laboratory examinations proved that the chewing gum which carries the brand Sheek "makes a man or woman sterile if they use it." The paper said the gum was produced in a "neighbouring non-Arab country," but it did not specifically mention Iran.

James Brown arrested after chase

AIKEN, South Carolina (AP) — Soul music legend James Brown, charged last month with trying to kill his wife, was arrested again Wednesday after allegedly fleeing from officers responding to a call at his home. Later in the day, authorities said Brown was charged with possession of the drug PCP following tests on a substance found in his car. Deputies were dispatched to Brown's home Wednesday afternoon after Brown's wife, Adrienne, went to a neighbour's house and said her husband was abusing her, said Aiken county sheriff Carrol Heath. When officers arrived, Brown sped away in his car but was overtaken a mile and a half away, Heath said. Brown told officers he was late for an appointment and was speeding to make up time, the sheriff said.

Stolen paintings worth \$50 million

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Three 19th-century paintings worth about 100 million guilders (\$50 million) among them a work by Vincent Van Gogh, were stolen from the municipal museum Friday, police said. The three paintings were discovered missing an hour after the museum's alarm sounded at 5 a.m. (0300 GMT) after a window was broken, according to police spokeswoman Heleen van der Weijden.

Stick to your right

LONDON (R) — The stress of coping with a right-handed world could shorten the life expectancy of left-handed people, according to researchers who based their findings on U.S. baseball statistics. Writing in the science magazine Nature, published in London, Canadian psychologist Stanley Coren of the University of British Columbia said 1,472 right-handers listed in the U.S. baseball encyclopedia died at the average age of 64.64 years, compared to 63.97 years for 236 southpaws. Until the age of 33, there was no difference in death rates for the two groups but then left-handers began to die earlier, he said.

16 killed in new Sikh strike

AMRITSAR (R) — Militant Sikh separatists struck again in the northern Indian state of Punjab Friday, killing at least 16 people.

The killings, which included a sleeping family and people standing at a bus stop, provided proof to the police belief that the surrender of 46 militants to end a 10-day siege of the sacred Golden Temple was just one battle in a long war.

The vast temple complex, the headquarters of the Sikh faith in the old walled city of Amritsar, still stands silent.

Until the siege was sparked by a militant gunman who wounded a senior policeman, the 400-year-old temple had resounded with few interruptions to the sound of ritual chanting and readings from the Sikh holy book.

Police bomb squads were still probing the honeycombed complex for arms and ammunition while Red Cross workers searched for bodies.

At least 38 people, most of

them militants fighting for an independent homeland they call Khalistan, were killed before the last 46, who took refuge in the inner sanctum on which police were ordered not to fire, surrendered Wednesday.

Police had expected retaliation for the siege from gunmen still at large. They have not been disappointed.

More than 125 people have been killed across Punjab in three days, including 30 Hindu canal diggers dragged out of their beds, lined up and shot.

Police in Chandigarh, the Punjab state capital, said militants killed five people and wounded five as they waited for a bus Friday in Bhatinda district.

Six hours earlier, gunmen broke into a farmhouse near Amritsar and killed six sleeping workers, police said.

Punjab police chief K.P.S. Gill, himself a Sikh told reporters in Amritsar he did not know when the temple rituals, of crucial importance to the Sikh faith,

would start again. "Let the temple be cleansed first, then it will be decided," he said.

The rituals, halted by the siege, have not been suspended for so long in living memory, not even during the June, 1984 army action against separatists in the temple in which over 1,000 people were killed.

The operation horrified Sikhs, who saw it as sacrilege. Four months later, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by Sikh bodyguards.

Reporters Friday were allowed into the temple, including the Harmandir Sahib inner sanctum, where a stretch hung over parts of the shrine where the last gunman held out.

The militants urinated and defecated into brass pots and tins rather than desecrate the shrine where the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book, is housed.

The first floor was still strewn with weapons, including Chinese-made AK-47 assault rifles.

Major reforms figure high in 1st Hungarian party meeting in 31 years

BUDAPEST (AP) — Hungarian Communist Party leader Janos Kadar Friday opened the first party conference in 31 years, expected to focus on economic and political changes that could affect the nation's top officials.

Central committee member Janos Barabas told reporters Thursday that the 990 delegates to the conference will have the opportunity "to create a new leadership if they want to."

The conference comes amid speculation that Kadar, 75, may be replaced after serving as general secretary since 1956.

Hungary pioneered economic reform in Eastern Europe two decades ago, but it has become bogged down by a soaring balance of payments deficit and foreign debt as well as political differences within the leadership.

A draft document for the three-day conference has stimulated thousands of individual calls for a radical and active reform process.

Barabas earlier said a personnel committee will be formally chosen Friday. It will make recommendations for membership on the central committee.

Barabas said any changes in the party leadership would be announced after a final central committee meeting Sunday.

He did not elaborate, saying only that the post of party general secretary also would be voted on.

Kadar has been increasingly blamed for Hungary's deepening economic crisis and for resisting political reforms.

"Kadar has come to personify the mistakes that have been made in the past," said a prominent party official who asked not to be identified further.

"No real change can occur as long as he remains on top," the official said, adding that a growing number of party members want to see him step down.

Meanwhile, at a news conference earlier in the day, a confederation of dissident and activist groups, called on the leadership to approve sweeping political and social changes.

The recently founded network of free initiatives, comprising ecological, political, youth and other independent groups, urged the government to reinstitute "parliamentary rule, a multi-party system and a mixed market economy."

The confederation said the country needs "a new constitution which provides its citizens with civil and political rights," and that "control of the mass media must be terminated and freedom of the press ensured."

Hungary's communist leaders are under mounting pressure from both inside and outside the party to adopt political reforms as a first step toward revitalising the nation's stagnating economy.

Last week, the central committee said personnel changes would be high on the conference agenda, fuelling speculation Kadar would be asked to step aside.

However, Western diplomatic sources say there is still no clear indication that Kadar intends to relinquish control soon.

The situation is very fluid and the outcome (of the conference) is almost impossible to predict," said a Western diplomat, who requested anonymity.

Premier Karoly Grosz, a leading contender to succeed Kadar, has said that the political future of the party leader may be up for debate during the conference, the first since 1957.

Kadar has said in recent interviews that he would step down if asked.

Soviets said ready to talk to Hanoi on Kampuchea

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's foreign minister has quoted Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze as saying that Moscow would talk with Vietnam about ending its military role of Kampuchea.

"The Soviet Union will talk earnestly to Vietnam and try its best to resolve the occupation of (Kampuchea)," Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila Thursday quoted Shevardnadze as telling him in an "in-depth" meeting Wednesday in Moscow. Siddhi declined to say when and where these discussions would be held.

Shevardnadze's reported statement could represent a significant change in the Soviet position, could not be confirmed immediately by the Kremlin.

While visiting Thailand last month, the Soviet deputy foreign minister, Igor I. Rogachev, said the Kremlin could not pressure Vietnam on Kampuchea because Vietnam is a sovereign country and it is not possible to dictate policy to Vietnam. Thai officials responded that Hanoi would have to end the military intervention if the Soviets withdrew aid.

The Thai minister spoke after returning earlier in the day from Moscow.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Tibetans stage clemency rally

DHARAMSALA, India (AP) — About 400 people led by Tibetan monks marched Friday through the streets of Dharamsala to appeal to China to spare four Tibetans arrested in the death of a Chinese policeman. The policeman died during protests in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa in March. Dharamsala, in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, is the home of the Dalai Lama, the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, and many of his followers. Tibetan shops and businesses were closed Friday as part of the protest. Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, reported in April that four men were arrested April 14 in connection with the March 5 death of the policeman. As many as 24 people died in clashes that day in Lhasa. The Dalai Lama Thursday issued a statement saying there were reports that the four Tibetans would be executed and urged that they be spared. The men were identified as Lobsang Tenzin, a student of Tibet university at Lhasa, Tsering Dhoondup, a monk, Gyaltsen Chopel, a businessman and Sonam Wangdue, a carpenter. Friday's demonstration was organised by the Dharamsala Tibetan Freedom Movement, a lobby group. It said appeals were sent to the prime ministers of India and China. China invaded Tibet in 1959. The Dalai Lama and about 100,000 of his followers fled to India that year after an abortive Tibetan uprising.

Japanese hijackers deny Red Army link

TOKYO (AP) — A group of Japanese hijackers who commandeered a jetliner to North Korea in 1970 say they have no links to the extremist Japanese Red Army, according to a message from the group sent to the Kyodo news service. The hijackers wish to return to Japan "to fight for Japan and the Japanese people," the group said Wednesday in a text message and telephone conversation with Kyodo. The message, published Thursday, was in response to a list of questions sent to the hijackers, who have remained in North Korea since they forced a Japan Airlines jet to fly to the Communist country 18 years ago. "Everyone knows we love our mother country and want to return to contribute to our mother country," the message said. "Our primary desire is to realise the dreams of the Japanese people so that they may live happy lives." In a telephone conversation the same evening, Takahiro Konishi, the hijackers' second-in-command, told Kyodo the group had "absolutely no" connections to the Red Army or suspected Red Army extremists. It was the first time the group had disclaimed any links to the Red Army, Kyodo said. The long-dormant Red Army carried out a number of attacks in the

1970s, including a grenade and machine gun assault on Lod airport in Israel in 1972 that left 26 people dead. It also hijacked a jetliner over India in 1977. Police suspect a Red Army figure in a car bombing in Naples, Italy, last month that killed five people.

Judge urged to start Iran-contra trial

WASHINGTON (R) — The Iran-contra prosecutor asked a federal judge Thursday to allow the case against fired White House aide Oliver North and three others to go to trial immediately. "This case should now go to trial," special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh said in arguing against more hearings on whether his investigation had been tainted by possible use of the defendants' congressional testimony last summer under grants of immunity. Walsh said there was no need for more pre-trial hearings because he built his case properly without using any of the testimony given to the Iran-contra committees that investigated President Reagan's worst foreign policy scandal. North and his one-time boss at the White House, former National Security Adviser John Poindexter, have been charged with conspiring to defraud the U.S. government by stealing profits from the secret arms sales to Iran to provide prohibited military aid to the Nicaraguan contras in 1985-86.

1st Soviet manned shuttle to carry 2

MOSCOW (R) — The first manned Soviet space shuttle flight with probably take two cosmonauts into orbit, Moscow Radio reported Thursday. It quoted Vladimir Shatalov, head of the cosmonaut training centre, as saying the flight would take place after space technicians finished testing all systems of the shuttle and its giant booster rocket, Energia. Shatalov told Western television reporters this week that two or three unmanned shuttle flights were expected before the new craft was launched with a crew on board. He said Igor Volk, one of the country's top test pilots, had been named to man the controls for the first flight. "The Soviet shuttle is similar to the American shuttle but has a number of design peculiarities," the radio said. Western experts have said one difference was that the Soviet craft could land on jet power, but Shatalov denied this. He said the Soviet shuttle glides in like the American one. In preparation for the first shuttle launch, the craft has undergone 20 atmospheric flight tests, Shatalov added. Soviet space officials have declined to speculate about the date of the shuttle's maiden launch beyond saying they hoped it would take place this year.

Reagan: Astrology affair will not damage summit

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Thursday he considered Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev a real friend and denied revelations of astrological influence on the White House would mar the Moscow summit.

"I hope Mr. Gorbachev has heard some of the things that I have been saying about those charges," Reagan said, "because no decision was ever made by me on the basis of astrology."

The president, in an interview with foreign television journalists, had been asked whether he felt the disclosure in a new book by former Chief of Staff Donald Regan that his schedule and travel plans were dictated by an astrologer would damage his fourth summit meeting with Gorbachev. His wife Nancy had consulted the astrologer.

The president, in extensive remarks on the astrology flap earlier this week, also denied that May 29-June 2 summit dates had been set after consulting the stars.

In Thursday's interview, Reagan also appeared to defend his former press secretary, Larry Speakes, who in a book published last month disclosed he sometimes made up presidential quotes and said they were Reagan's own.

"I have to say he was not too far wrong with some of the things that were being said in our earlier summit meetings," Reagan said, apparently referring to one "quote" in which Speakes said the president had told Gorbachev at their first summit in Geneva in 1985 that their talks would help make the world a safer place.